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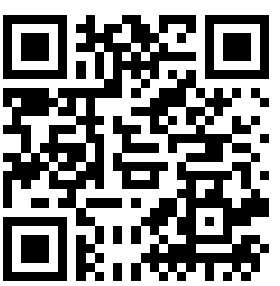

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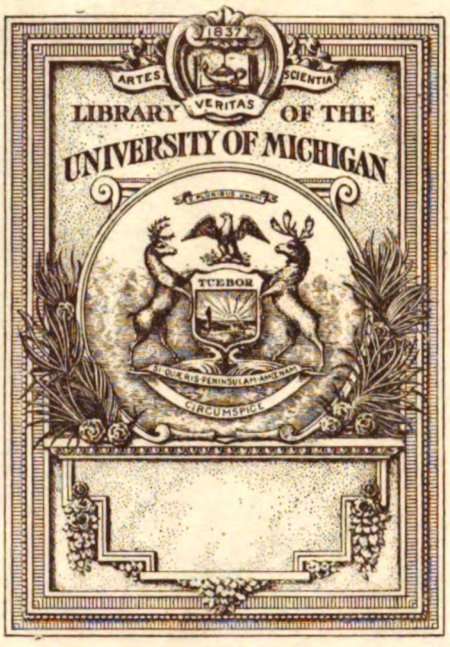

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MISCELLANEOUS. No. 16 (1916).

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FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR

RESPECTING

THE TREATMENT OF BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR AND INTERNED CIVILIANS IN GERMANY.

[In continuation of "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)": Cd. 8108.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May 1916.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY HARRISON AND SONS, 45-47, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, W.C.,
PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY.

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Further Correspondence with the United States Ambassador respecting the Treatment of British Prisoners of War and Interned Civilians in Germany.

[In continuation of "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)": Cd. 8108.]

No. 1.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page, United States Minister at London.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 12th July* enclosing a report by Mr. Jackson as to the conditions obtaining in the internment camp at Stendal, has the honour to state that complaints have lately reached him in regard to the alleged non-delivery of parcels sent from this country to prisoners in that camp, and also to the effect that the prisoners are ill-supplied with clothing, and that the food is very unsatisfactory.

Sir E. Grey would be greatly obliged if the United States Ambassador at Berlin could be requested to be good enough to take an opportunity to satisfy himself as to whether these complaints are well-founded, and whether the conditions at the camp, as to which Mr. Jackson was able to report in highly favourable terms in June last, have in any respect deteriorated since that date.

Foreign Office, October 13, 1915.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 10.

No. 2.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 27th October† transmitting copy of a report addressed by Mr. Jackson to the Ambassador at Berlin in regard to the conditions obtaining in the prisoners of war internment camp at Schneidemühl, has the honour to request that his thanks may be conveyed to Mr. Gerard for this interesting communication, together with an expression of the hope of His Majesty's Government that his Excellency will be good enough to consider whether steps can be taken in the direction of ensuring in future the presence of a competent interpreter to assist in the trial of members of His Majesty's forces, thus obviating the recurrence of complaints such as that mentioned by Mr. Jackson on p. 2 of his report.

Foreign Office, November 1, 1915.

† See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 42.

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No. 3.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 10.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 2nd instant, transmitting copies of reports upon visits to camps where British prisoners of war are interned.

Mr. Page ventures to call Sir Edward Grey's attention to Mr. Gerard's wish that the report upon the camp at Wittenberg be treated confidentially until he has had an opportunity of personally visiting the camp.

American Embassy, London,
November 9, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November 2, 1915.*

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of further reports upon visits to camps where British prisoners of war are interned, as follows :—

Reports by Mr. Jackson upon visits made on the 27th ultimo to the officers' camp at Wülzburg bei Weissenburg, Bavaria, and the men's camp at Nuremberg, as well as to the hospital for wounded prisoners of war at that place.

A report by Mr. Russell respecting a visit made on the 28th ultimo with Mr. Jackson to the camp for officer prisoners of war at Halle.

A report by Mr. Lithgow Osborne in regard to his visit on the 29th ultimo to the camp for prisoners of war at Wittenberg.

I request that the latter report may not be given out publicly until I have had an opportunity of personally visiting the camp at Wittenberg and taking steps for its improvement. I have no objection, however, to its confidential submission to the British authorities.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

Report by Mr. Jackson on Visit to Detention Camp at Wülzburg bei Weissenburg, Bavaria.

THE old fortress of Wülzburg (altitude 600 metres), about 2 miles from the city of Weissenburg, was used as a camp for French prisoners in 1870, and was used as a men's camp at the beginning of the present war. About a month ago it was changed to an officers' camp, with nominal capacity of 230. When visited by Mr. Russell and myself to-day there were 122 present, of whom all were Russians except 1 Belgian, 7 French, and 2 British officers—Major Hall and Lieutenant Whyte—both of whom were transferred from Beeskow. Major Hall shares a room with several other staff officers, while Lieutenant Whyte's quarters are with other subalterns, but the two mess together. The fortress is a very old building, and its large halls have been partitioned off into a number of rooms, in some of which the beds are rather close together, but where, owing to the height of the ceilings, the air space and ventilation appear satisfactory. The building is lighted by electricity and heated by stoves. The sanitary arrangements are primitive, but unobjectionable, there being one closet inside for use at night. The senior officers eat in the rooms in which they sleep, but may join the juniors if they like at table in a corridor adjoining the latter's quarters. The camp is not yet in order, and the water supply is being increased. About 100 soldier prisoners (no British) are working on the improvements at present, but when they are completed about half this number will be sent away, the others remaining as officers' servants. Recreation rooms are being prepared on the ground floor of the building, the middle floor of which is unoccupied at present (although furnished for additional prisoners), as, because of

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the view, the upper storey was first put in use. The two British officers would like to be transferred to another camp where there are more of their own nationality, and their wish has been noted by the German authorities. Among the prisoners is one French officer who was also a prisoner in Germany in 1870.

October 27, 1915.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

Report by Mr. Jackson on Visit to Detention Camp at Nuremberg.

THE camp at Nuremberg was visited by Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Pyne about four months ago (report dated the 28th June).* When visited by Mr. Russell and myself to-day it contained thirty-five British non-commissioned officers and men, all of them dressed in their own uniform. Requests for additional uniform clothing had been made through the Embassy by Sergeant-Major Tate. Overcoats had been supplied by the German authorities to those who were without them. Beyond the usual criticism of the food, none of the men made any substantial complaint, although I talked freely with Sergeant-Major Tate and with as many of the others as wished to speak to me. The case of one man who is almost deaf, as the result of a wound, was brought to the attention of the commandant, with a view to his repatriation, if permissible. This man has been receiving special treatment for his ear. As one man complained about the non-receipt of certain expected parcels, and intimated that he thought they had been taken by other prisoners who worked in the parcel-room, a wish on the part of the British to have one of their own men work in that room was brought to the notice of the commandant, who gave an order to give effect to it at once. The English prisoners live in two groups, one of fifteen and the other of twenty. Six other Englishmen whose names are carried on the books of this camp, and who volunteered for agricultural work, were absent on working parties.

In the lazaret, near the camp, there was only one British soldier (John Hassall, King's Own Regiment, 7816), who was wounded and captured on the 26th August, 1914, and has spent most of the intervening time in various hospitals. He was brought to Nuremberg last May, and was to be operated upon for a third time to-morrow. He seemed in good spirits, and said that he was being well treated. In this lazaret I saw two French officers who were wounded and captured about a month ago. They occupy a room by themselves, and had no unfavourable comment to make upon the treatment which they received.

October 27, 1915.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 7.

Enclosure 4 in No 3.

Report by Mr. Russell on Visit to Detention Camp at Halle on the Saale.

THE conditions of the camp for officer prisoners of war at Halle continue to remain much as they were (see Mr. Jackson's roport of the 1st April† last and Mr. Gerard's despatch of the 12th instant).‡ Mr. Jackson and I were glad to note, however, that a number of minor improvements have taken place.

At the present time there are over 500 officer prisoners of war in the camp, only 35 of whom are British; there are 4 British orderlies. The great majority of the officer prisoners are Russians, and many of them have been brought to the camp comparatively recently. Of the British officers interned at Halle who were selected in April last for solitary confinement at Magdeburg, only three now remain in the camp: Lieutenants Campbell, Rogerson, and Graves. Second-Lieutenant Campbell is anxious to be transferred to the camp at Blankenberg, and Lieutenants Rogerson and Graves expressed their desire to be sent to the camp at Augustusbad, if that could be arranged. The Embassy has made their wishes in this respect known to the Prussian Ministry of War.

The following improvements are worthy of mention:—

1. The room in which the four British officers of senior rank are quartered formerly served, as described in Mr. Jackson's report under reference, as a passage-way to other rooms. This, however, is now no longer the case.

† See "Miscellaneous, No. 11 (1915)," No. 2.
‡ See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 37.

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2. We were informed that the arrangements as to the cooking of food were under the control of certain officer prisoners, and that the old contract system has been done away with. We were told that the meals had improved in quality, and that it was also possible to obtain a greater quantity than formerly without an increase in price.

3. The exercise enclosure between the buildings has been improved in appearance by the laying out of a few flower plots. The facilities for exercise, however, are no better than those previously existing.

Many of the British officers complained of the fact that they were housed in the same room with officers of other nationalities, and that, because of this fact, they could not keep the windows of their rooms open at night, as the Russian officers, in particular, objected to this.

We discussed this matter with the commandant at considerable length, and he informed us that, so far as he was concerned, he would greatly prefer having the officers housed according to nationalities, but he considered that his orders in regard to this matter from the Prussian Minister of War left him no choice.

In this connection, I am glad to be able to state that the War Office have now sent an order to the commandant of the camp in question authorising him to house officers by nationalities.

C. H. RUSSELL.

October 28, 1915.

Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

Report by Mr. Osborne on Visit to Detention Camp at Wittenberg.

ON the 29th October I visited the detention camp for prisoners of war at Wittenberg. Fifteen thousand non-commissioned officers and men are assigned to the camp, of whom about two-thirds are at present at work-camps. Of the 5,000 remaining, 400 are English, including 34 civilians. The whole area of the camp is divided into eight sections or compounds, separated from each other by wire barriers. Across the front of these sections is a strip of territory known as the "neutral zone," and on the other side of this strip, and accessible from it, is one big kitchen supplying the whole camp, some workshops, the bathing establishment, and some special barracks housing a number of severely wounded men who are awaiting exchange.

The British prisoners are divided into three groups: first, military prisoners who are fit for manual labour; second, military prisoners who are not fit for work, being very largely those who are recovering from the effects of typhus; and third, the civilians. Each of these groups is in a different compound, the civilians being in the compound with Belgian and French civilians. The civilians live under exactly the same conditions as the military prisoners, and it is only within a few weeks that they have been housed separately.

The British have not barracks to themselves, but are in the majority in the barracks which they occupy, with the exception of the civilians, whose total number is small. The barracks are well made of wood and plaster, and are of the usual shape, with plenty of windows and two large stoves to each half-barrack; the artificial lighting is by petroleum lamps. In the daytime the mattresses are arranged in piles, giving more room for moving about. Tables have been constructed, and at these I found the men eating their midday meal, consisting of thick soup. Opinion as to the quality of the food differed; it was generally admitted that the quantity was sufficient, and that it had improved greatly recently in quality, though some thought there was much still to be desired in this direction. I had already tasted it in the kitchen, and what I heard from the men confirmed me in my opinion that, aside from the sameness, the rations provided adhere to the standard necessary for good health. The kitchen I had found clean and airy, and quite satisfactory. Ten English are employed there, and the food is probably, therefore, cooked more to the English taste than in many camps. The men had nothing to complain of in regard to their housing or the camp sanitation; the latrines for the compound are at the far end of the section, on the other side of the exercise ground; they are free from odour, well disinfected, and are cleaned out daily.

The bathing establishment consists of a large number of douches. The men undress in one room, pass through the shower-room and into a dressing-room, their

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clothes being meanwhile hung on hooks and passed through a high-temperature disinfecting process into the dressing-room. Baths are taken once a week, I was informed.

On a different side of the "neutral zone" are the lazaret buildings. Under the "Oberarzt," in charge, are two members of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Captains Priestley and Vidal. Both stated that the general health of the camp has been excellent since the disappearance of the typhus, there being now only a few minor illnesses, which occupy but a small share of Dr. Priestley's time, and that the lazaret is excellent in all respects. Captains Priestley and Vidal said that their own treatment was good, that they had comfortable quarters, and were able to get good food for a reasonable sum. Their only suggestions were in regard to somewhat better facilities being given to them in the way of their obtaining medical supplies, and that some extra covering for the patients might now be supplied. The commandant thought both these questions might be arranged.

It was only in these matters, however, that the commandant showed any willingness to regard the wishes and complaints of the prisoners, or my suggestions based on them. The matter of clothing was the chief source of trouble. Upon arriving in the camp I asked the commandant whether there were stores of clothing. He replied "Yes." To my further enquiries I distinctly understood both the commandant and his assistant to say that every English soldier had been provided with an overcoat. When I investigated among the prisoners, who were drawn up in line, I was informed that practically no overcoats had been given out by the authorities. On the contrary, ten overcoats which men had had sent from England had been taken from their owners and given to other British prisoners who were going to work-camps. When I brought this to the attention of the commandant he stated that the property of the prisoners could be disposed of by the authorities as they saw fit. When I pointed out the fact that exceedingly few of the British had received overcoats, he modified his former statement to the extent of saying that they would be supplied in the near future, in so far as possible ("nach Möglichkeit"), but that it was at present very difficult ("sehr schwer") to get overcoats. I was later shown the clothing supplies, including 400 overcoats, and I then received a third version of the story. I enquired whether these overcoats were to be given out upon application, and the commandant replied in the affirmative; when I asked if these would be given to British prisoners who asked for them and needed them, he again answered affirmatively.

Aside from overcoats, the prisoners, to a large extent, had been able to obtain underclothing, socks, jackets, and trousers (in so far as these had not been sent from England) from the camp authorities. There seemed, however, to be some difficulty in many cases in making wants known. I drew this fact to the attention of the commandant, stating that I knew many applications for clothing were undoubtedly unjustified, and asked whether it would not, however, be possible to work in conjunction with the British non-commissioned officers, who could discover the needs of the men in their companies, bring them to the attention of the proper authorities, give proof that the needs were legitimate, and thus assist in a fair and satisfactory distribution of the clothing. This suggestion the commandant did not wish to consider.

From many of the men I had heard complaints that one of the watchmen had a large and fierce dog, which he took inside the barracks, and which had attacked and torn the clothes of several of the prisoners. I informed the commandant that I did not know how far this was in accordance with facts, but suggested that it was unnecessary to bring the dog inside the compound, particularly as I had never heard of it being done in other camps. He replied that he considered it necessary, and that this could not be changed, as the prisoners were in the habit of remaining up late at night, keeping their lights burning, playing cards, &c.

The request that the British might have more than one representative at the bureau where parcels are opened he said he would consider ("überlegen"). The further request that the British have a representative in the camp canteen, he thought, might be granted, provided one trustworthy ("vertrauenswert") Englishman could be found. I suggested that there must be one trustworthy one among 400, but he seemed to be doubtful on the subject.

The canteen was shut for the noon hour during my visit to the camp. I had received complaints that its wares were few and its prices high. Judging from the size of the building, and the number of commodities I saw displayed when I examined the interior through the windows, I should say that the first complaint may have been justified in comparison to canteens in other camps. The commandant did not think either complaint justified, however, and did not wish to consider any change. He

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promised to transmit to the Embassy a list of the things sold, with the prices attached, so that the real facts of this matter can be later determined.

I had also heard several exact complaints regarding one of the German soldiers in the bathing-house, who had struck with his closed fist several of the prisoners, including one man with a crippled right arm, with whom I had spoken, for being slow in getting dressed. The commandant, however, did not wish to make any investigation in regard to the offender.

My whole impression of the camp authorities at Wittenberg was utterly unlike that which I have received in every other camp I have visited in Germany. Instead of regarding their charges as honourable prisoners of war, it appeared to me the men were regarded as criminals, for whom a régime of fear alone would suffice to keep in obedience. All evidence of kindly and humane feeling between the authorities and the prisoners was lacking, and in no other camp have I found signs of fear on the part of the prisoners that what they might say to me would result in suffering for them afterwards. This attitude of the camp authorities can be seen from the remark to me made by one of the subordinate officers, after I had insisted upon speaking to the prisoners out of hearing distance, that it was unfortunate the statements of the prisoners to me could not be controlled ("controlliert").

LITHGOW OSBORNE.

Berlin, November 2, 1915.

No. 4.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 10.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 1st instant, reporting upon Mr. Gerard's visit to the prisoners at Castle Celle.

American Embassy, London,
November 8, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 4.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 1, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I visited Castle Celle on the 25th October. The castle is picturesquely situated on a hill with park-like grounds about it.

Here are interned retired, territorial, &c., British, French, and Russian officers. There are also here twelve French priests, who have been taken from French territory occupied by the Germans.

The prisoners number 260 in all, of whom twenty are British.

The sleeping-rooms seem comfortable, and do not appear overcrowded, although in one case twelve Englishmen occupy a room about 22 feet by 22 feet. The ceilings are high. The rooms are heated by the usual German porcelain stoves. The exercise places are the walks around the castle and the courtyard, which latter is 90 yards by 60 yards in extent. Walking parties are taken into the country under guard. Badminton is played in the courtyard.

One bucket of coal per day is allowed each stove, but officers in each room can purchase more. Additional lamps can also be purchased.

The officers whom I questioned, as well as certain French prisoners, stated that the food consisted of only 300 grammes of black bread as a day's allowance, some thick soup at midday, some coffee in the morning, and some tea or cocoa at night. The soup is good, and is usually made of beans or something similar, with meat. Mr. Osborne, of my staff, who accompanied me, stated that the officers to whom he talked stated that lately soup has also been given at night. If the fare is as stated to me, it is not sufficient. Those who pay the caterer an extra sum of 3 M. per week receive meat and potatoes in the middle of the day—otherwise the fare is the same. Extra meals may also be ordered through the caterer.

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All the English interned are able to pay for the extra food, but one, at least, informed me that he took, "on principle," only the food provided and packages from home.

I shall have to send again to Celle in order to find out whether soup is given at night, as stated by a prisoner to Mr. Osborne, or not at night, as stated by prisoners to me.

The Government allows only 66 pfennige per man per day, out of which has to come the caterer's profit.

The prisoners are allowed to buy food at grocers' shops in the town.

The commandant told me he would allow the prisoners to organise a committee to buy extra food.

The outside latrines are only a few steps from the castle, and are clean and sufficient.

There is one bathroom with hot water in the castle, but another, belonging to the warder, may be used for 75 pfennige. In the first bathroom is the only latrine for night use in the castle.

The seriously ill are sent to a lazaret in the town.

The commandant in civil life is a jndge, and seemed on excellent terms with the prisoners.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 5.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 9th instant* forwarding reports received from the United States Ambassador at Berlin on the camps at Wulzburg, Nuremberg, Halle, and Wittenberg, has the honour to state that the report on the last mentioned of these camps will be treated as confidential for the present, in accordance with Mr. Gerard's request to that effect.

Sir E. Grey has learnt with great concern of the unfavourable impression produced on Mr. Lithgow Osborne by the attitude of the camp authorities at Wittenberg, and he earnestly trusts that the personal visit to that camp which Mr. Gerard has foreshadowed may result in a marked improvement in the demeanour of the officials concerned, though it appears to be clear that those officials are of a bad type, and quite unfitted to be in responsible positions.

Sir E. Grey cannot pass over in silence incidents such as the introduction of a dog which attacks prisoners, and the striking of prisoners, including a man with a crippled right arm. Such proceedings are a disgrace to the officers and men entrusted with the supervision of the prisoners, and are calculated to bring the army to which the officials belong into contempt.

In conclusion, Sir E. Grey would be much obliged if Mr. Page would be so good as to request Mr. Gerard to express his thanks to Messrs. Jackson, Russell, and Lithgow Osborne for their reports.

Foreign Office, November 12, 1915.

* See No. 3.

No. 6.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 13.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 6th instant, referring to the letter transmitted to Sir Edward Grey on the 8th instant,† and reporting upon a second visit made to Castle Celle.

American Embassy, London,
November 12, 1915.

† See No. 4.

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Enclosure in No. 6.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
November 6, 1915.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 1st November relative to the place of detention for British Reserve Officers at Castle Celle, I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Lithgow Osborne, the member of the Embassy Staff who accompanied me on my former visit to Celle, made a second visit there on the 4th November in order to ascertain the correct facts in regard to the evening fare furnished by the authorities, concerning which he and I had received dissimilar impressions. Mr. Osborne spoke with the Commandant, with the only English prisoner who eats the regular fare, and with three French prisoners who also eat it. Mr. Osborne further saw the menu for the week, posted in the dining room, and which, as nearly as he could gather, had been adhered to during the present week up until the time of his visit, which took place on a Thursday. According to Mr. Osborne's investigations, it appears that regular rations provided at Castle Celle during the past three or four weeks have included, on two or three days in the week, vegetable soup, herrings with potatoes, or rice with the evening meal, which had formerly consisted solely of tea or cocoa, with sugar.

The Commandant informed Mr. Osborne that he had already taken up, with the proper authorities, the matter of better food for the interned officers, and that he hoped for a favourable reply very shortly.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 7.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 13.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 8th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 26th October last* respecting the removal of British prisoners to camps where they will associate with their fellow-countrymen.

American Embassy, London,
November 12, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
November 8, 1915.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 27th October enclosing copies of a note from the British Foreign Office, dated the 26th October*, suggesting the removal of the two British prisoners of war at the camp at Amberg, Bavaria, I have the honour to inform you that this matter had already been taken up unofficially with the Ministry of War, and that there seems reasonable chance of the matter being arranged in accordance with the wishes of the British Government.

The Embassy is, in the same way, endeavouring to bring about the removal of the British prisoners of war from some of the other camps in Bavaria and Saxony, where there are only one or two British interned.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 41.

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No. 8.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 13.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 8th instant, referring to the reports transmitted to Sir Edward Grey, on the 9th instant,* and enclosing a copy of a further report upon the camp at Wittenberg.

American Embassy, London,
November 12, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
November 8, 1915.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 2nd instant,* enclosing certain reports of visits made by members of the staff of the Embassy, to camps in Germany where British prisoners of war are interned, I have the honour to inform you that I visited to-day, accompanied by Mr. Russell, the camp at Wittenberg, which, as you are aware, was first visited by Mr. Osborne on the 29th ultimo. Visits have not been made at earlier dates on account of the presence of an epidemic of spotted typhus in the camp.

I was anxious that Mr. Osborne's report should not be made public until I had had an opportunity of viewing actual conditions myself, and I regret to have to state that the impression which I gained upon careful examination of the camp and after long conversations with the prisoners, was even more unfavourable than I had been led to expect.

Upon my arrival at the camp I was not received by the general, who acts as Commandant, but by a major, who, together with certain other officers, took me through the camp in the absence of the Commandant.

At the present time there are over 4,000 prisoners of war in the camp, 278 of whom are British. There is also a small number of British prisoners in the hospital at the camp, and there are 500 British soldiers employed in a number of working camps through the Province of Saxony (Provinz Sachsen.) There are also 36 British civilians interned in the camp.

As the general plan of the arrangements of the camp has already been described, it seems hardly necessary to discuss it at length at the present time. The conditions in regard to the housing and feeding of prisoners closely resemble those existing at other camps. Three daily meals are served; in the morning, soup, or three times a week coffee; at noon, the usual soup containing meat and vegetables, and in the evening fish and potatoes or soup. The usual daily allowance of 300 grams of bread is given to each man. We were shown the soup which was being given out for the midday meal and it appeared to be very good, and this fact was borne out by the testimony of the men who said that the food had improved considerably during the last two months. As is usual, however, a number of British prisoners said that they lived entirely upon food sent from home.

The facilities for purchasing extra food in the canteen did not give me the impression of being satisfactory. I was informed, however, that it is proposed that bread be sold in the canteen, so that a man may supplement his daily ration by 200 grams. The following are some of the articles of food for sale at the present time, with the prices charged :—

Apples	30 Pfg.
Sardines in glass	65 Pfg.
Bouillon and soup tablets	5 and 10 Pfg.
Raspberry syrup	75 Pfg.
Non-alcoholic drinks	10 and 15 Pfg. per bottle.
Lump sugar	40 Pfg. per German lb.

I may add that the price charged for lump sugar in Berlin at the present time is from 33 to 35 Pfg. per German pound.

* See No. 3.

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Among the thirty-six civilian prisoners of war, I found that twelve were without overcoats. The chief complaint was in regard to the length of time taken to distribute parcels after they reach the camp. All the men in question had the two blankets required by the regulations. They expressed themselves as anxious to be transferred to the camp at Ruhleben, and I hope that this matter can be arranged in due course.

Upon my return to Berlin, I immediately took steps to have 5 M. per week relief money distributed among those of the British civilians at Wittenberg, who are not receiving money from home. A sum sufficient for this purpose has been sent to the Commandant at the camp with the request that it be distributed through the medium of the "Captain" of the British civilians.

I next visited the three barracks where British military prisoners are interned, and where the men were lined up together, so that I had an opportunity of speaking to them collectively as well as individually. In the first barrack which I visited there were 68 men, none of whom had overcoats; in the next barrack 136 men, of whom 8 had overcoats, and in the third barrack 74 men, of whom 8 had overcoats. This makes a total of 16 overcoats among 278 men. One of the chief complaints which I received was that overcoats had been taken away from British prisoners to be given to other British prisoners who were going out on working parties and who were without overcoats. This was at first denied by the authorities, but upon my reminding the officer with me that the general had informed Mr. Osborne that he had a right to do this, he agreed and said that this course was perfectly proper.

All the men had two blankets, and many had received articles of clothing from the camp authorities, but it must be said that on the whole they were insufficiently clothed. In this connection the military authorities stated that as soon as clothes were given to the British prisoners they immediately sold them to the Russian prisoners, and lost almost all that they had in gambling.

I suggested the advisability of a senior non-commissioned officer in each barrack being responsible for the articles given to the men, and that lists should be kept showing exactly what articles had been distributed, and that if a man asked a second time and could not account for the clothing which had originally been given to him, he should not again receive articles of clothing from the authorities. On the other hand, I heard from the men, and also from the British officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, with whom I spoke later, that upon first arriving at the camp the men had been forced to sell their clothing to their fellow prisoners in order to procure sufficient food to live upon.

I received complaints from men who had been sent to working camps, that they had not received full pay for the time they had spent. Several men mentioned a nitrate factory at Wittenberg in this connection. The authorities promised to investigate these cases. Another complaint which I received was that non-commissioned officers had been employed in working camps, and in regard to this matter the German officers stated that this had only been done in cases where the non-commissioned officers had volunteered for the work. I may add, however, that complaints in this regard were made to me by the British non-commissioned officers themselves.

There are twenty-six disabled men in the camp, many of whom are undoubtedly unfit for further military service, and it is hoped that they will be included in the next exchange of persons unfit for further military service during the present war. I was informed that action with regard to these men had been taken, but the fact remains that many of them have been in the camp for over a year.

The men also told me that one of the British medical officers at the camp had been recently struck by a German non-commissioned officer, and upon investigation, this fact proved to be true. I asked the officer in question whether the incident had actually occurred and he informed me that it had, but that he had consented to consider the incident as not having happened on the understanding that a repetition would not take place as regards any British prisoner in the camp.

Another complaint which I received from the men was that there was an insufficient number of Englishmen employed in the parcels' room, and that packages were only received after great delay. At the present time only one British soldier is employed in the room in question.

Many of the prisoners complained that dogs were brought in by the German soldiers on duty at night, and that in certain cases the prisoners had had their clothes torn by these dogs. I asked the authorities whether they considered these dogs necessary to the preservation of order, saying that at no other camps had I seen dogs used for this purpose, and they informed me that they considered it absolutely necessary, and that the dogs were needed to protect the German soldiers on duty. I was shown half-a-dozen of these dogs, which are of the usual type of police dog.

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I then visited the two British medical officers, Captains Priestley and Vidal. They informed me that conditions in the camp had unquestionably improved greatly in the last months, that last year when an epidemic of spotted typhus existed in the camp, conditions had been indescribably bad. They said that at that time they had implored the German authorities to put the British soldiers in barracks by themselves, as this was the only way in which the outbreak of the epidemic, which had been brought to the camp by the Russians, could be prevented. The request was refused on the ground that the British should learn to know their Allies better. Largely because of this, fifty British military prisoners and nine civilians died from the disease.

My impression of the camp as a whole was distinctly unfavourable. The entire atmosphere is depressing, due not so much to the conditions under which the men live, which are practically identical with those existing at other camps, as to the fact that nothing appears to have been done towards bringing about any organisation among the prisoners themselves which would be of mutual benefit to them and to the authorities. The attitude which is taken towards the British prisoners seems to be based upon suspicion and they are not given positions of trust. It is true that they are now housed in barracks together, which is a great improvement, but they have no opportunities for playing games such as football, or for exercise other than walking. A theatre, however, has now been started, and it is hoped that it will prove a success.

I have asked the British senior non-commissioned officers to send me lists of the uniforms, overcoats, &c., needed, and the camp authorities will permit me to receive these lists without delay. I am sending a cheque for 2,000 M. to Captain Vidal to be spent for immediate relief in such ways as he may consider most advisable.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 9.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received November* 13.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 9th instant, enclosing a copy of a report of a visit to the detention camp at Stendal.

American Embassy, London,
November 12, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 9.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 9, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copies of a report of a visit to the detention camp at Stendal, in which British prisoners of war are interned, made by Mr. Lithgow Osborne, a member of the Embassy staff, on the 4th November.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 9.

Report by Mr. Osborne on Visit to Detention Camp at Stendal.

IN accordance with the wish expressed by the British Foreign Office in its note of the 13th October* that certain conditions at the detention camps for British prisoners of war at Stendal might again be looked into, I visited this camp on the morning of the 4th November.

Mr. Jackson, in his report of the 30th June,† has described the general aspect and organisation of the camp, which I found corresponded to his description. It is built to contain 16,000, and now contains about 5,500, of whom 150 are British. The

* See No. 1.

† See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 10.

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British prisoners are divided among the eight companies of which the camp consists, and which are divided by wire fences from one another; there seemed, however, to be no desire among the British to be all housed in one compound.

There are many men at Stendal who have been moved from other camps, notably from Gardelegen; there are a number of others who were captured at the end of September 1915, and who have been moved from hospitals at Cologne and elsewhere. Some of these latter, who have not yet entirely recovered from their injuries, are in a special barrack where they are provided with extra clothing and bedsteads, as opposed to the usual straw mattresses prevailing elsewhere in the camp. These men all expressed themselves as satisfied with the treatment accorded to them at the front and at the hospitals to which they had been taken, as well as with their present treatment. There were a few other prisoners, captured at the same time, in the other barracks, and from one of these only I heard a report of ill-treatment occurring immediately after capture, the exactness of which it was impossible for me to determine.

The only lazaret in the camp is for light cases of illness, the severe cases being sent to the hospitals at Stendal. The one English patient in the camp lazaret reported the treatment good; and a second Englishman, who acts as orderly, confirmed the report.

I spoke with the British non-commissioned officers in each of the compounds, especially in regard to the points mentioned by the British Foreign Office, namely, the non-arrival of parcels, the insufficiency of the food, and the failure of the camp authorities to furnish proper clothing. In regard to the parcels, I was informed that, in general, they arrive with regularity from England, as a rule taking two weeks; during the latter part of September, corresponding to the time when the traffic on the North Sea between England and Holland was twice closed, there had been a temporary irregularity, and the parcels arriving subsequently had taken longer in transmission; aside from this, the service had been satisfactory, except in the cases of perhaps seven or eight men who thought they had not received some of the parcels sent to them; several of these men had been moved once or twice within the last two months, which may well have caused a temporary cessation of their packages. The small residuum of dissatisfaction lacked consistency, and is, I think, traceable to the inevitable loss through occasional bad packing and the present difficulties of transmission, particularly as all the persons concerned had received some packages, and one or two were not certain that the others they expected had actually been shipped. The packages are opened in the presence of the recipients, and their contents censored.

I tasted the dinner, which was being prepared in the kitchen when I visited it, and found the thick bean soup with fish and vegetables in it, of which the meal consisted, exceedingly palatable, though thoroughly un-English. I could not discover that this meal was better than the usual food, and while the men said the food was "not what they were used to," and that they lived largely from the packages they received from England, they admitted that they could live on the camp rations, if necessary, and still retain good health, as is the case with the Russians, and that their objection to the food was on account of its sameness, and because it was not cooked in an English way; they did not, however, wish me to ask to have English put into the kitchen as assistants.

As regards the question of clothing, I found the same conditions existing as in other camps which I have lately visited. No overcoats had as yet been given out, though apparently the names of those needing them had been noted. The shoes given out were largely wooden clogs. Underclothes, coats, and trousers had been furnished to a number of the prisoners, but there seemed to be oftentimes some difficulty in obtaining these articles. Many of the men had received the things they needed from England, and others, who lacked them, admitted that they had not applied to the German authorities for what they were in need of.

The chief complaint I heard was concerning the slowness of letters in reaching England; and my investigations convinced me that this was more or less justified. There are twelve interpreters in the camp who speak French for the over 7,000 French prisoners, whose incoming and outgoing letters have to be censored; of these twelve, two speak English, and give part of their time to the English letters. It was admitted that, owing to this shorthandedness, letters had sometimes not left the camp immediately after the prescribed ten days were up. The commandant's representative, who accompanied me during my visit, said that he would speak to the commandant in regard to the securing of a larger staff for the handling of the mail, and that, at least, the outgoing letters could be given precedence over the incoming letters in order that the former might leave the camp promptly after the ten days. At my request he also

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promised to speak to the commandant in regard to making the securing of the proper clothing more easy.

Both these points have since been taken up by the Embassy by letter with the commandant.

A third point which will need adjustment is the question of blankets. I found the men in the barrack, containing those not quite recovered from wounds, provided with two blankets, but throughout the rest of the camp only one blanket per man was the rule. I was informed by the camp representative that nothing was known of the rule prescribing two blankets, and I was requested that the matter be taken up by the Embassy with the War Ministry at Berlin. This has since been done. There was also a complaint that not sufficient coal for the barrack stoves was furnished. It was my impression, however, that the barracks were not only warm, but uncomfortably and almost unhealthily so, although the day was cold and damp, and I think that the distribution of a second blanket to each man will solve the question of warmth, particularly as I did not receive the complaint about the coal in the barrack in which the men are provided with two blankets.

LITHGOW OSBORNE.

November 9, 1915.

No. 10.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 12th instant* enclosing a report by the United States Ambassador at Berlin on his visit to the camp at Wittenberg, has the honour to state that he learns with astonishment of the striking of a British medical officer by a German non-commissioned officer, all the more so as that officer was detained solely for the convenience of the German Government. He trusts that steps will at once be taken severely to punish the non-commissioned officer in question, and to prevent the recurrence of such an unseemly breach of discipline.

Sir E. Grey is referring in his note of the 12th instant† to the introduction of a savage dog into the camp. It appears from Mr. Gerard's despatch that a number of police dogs are habitually used in the camp. Sir E. Grey must take the strongest exception to this being done.

Sir E. Grey regrets to observe that, in spite of the severity of the weather, only 16 out of 278 British prisoners of war are provided with overcoats, though it would seem that overcoats are available.

He trusts that Mr. Gerard will be able to secure the removal of the thirty-six British civilians to Ruhleben at an early date.

Sir E. Grey much appreciates Mr. Gerard's action in proceeding personally to visit this camp, and he would be much obliged if Mr. Page would convey to his Excellency his cordial thanks for his report.

Foreign Office, November 17, 1915.

* See No. 8. † See No. 5.

No. 11.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 12th instant,‡ respecting the removal of British prisoners of war from the camp at Amberg and elsewhere, where they were in a small minority, to camps where they will be able to associate more freely with their fellow-countrymen, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if an expression of the sincere thanks of His Majesty's Government can be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin for the effective action taken by his Excellency in the matter.

Foreign Office, November 18, 1915.

‡ See No. 7.

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No. 12.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 12th instant,* transmitting copy of a report submitted by Mr. Lithgow Osborne to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, in regard to a visit paid by him to the detention camp at Stendal on the 4th instant, has the honour to request that Mr. Page will be good enough to convey to Mr. Gerard an expression of the sincere thanks of His Majesty's Government for the information contained in that interesting paper, and for his Excellency's courtesy in giving effect in so satisfactory a manner to the wish expressed in Sir E. Grey's note of the 13th ultimo.

Foreign Office, November 18, 1915.

* See No. 9.

No. 13.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to state that his attention has been drawn to a report that at least sixty British prisoners of war are employed at the Berlin garbage farm at Spreenhagen.

Sir E. Grey would be grateful if Mr. Page will kindly enquire of the United States Ambassador at Berlin whether the facts are as stated, and in that event to represent to the German Government that such work is menial and degrading and unsuitable for prisoners of war.

Foreign Office, November 19, 1915.

No. 14.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note enclosing reports on various camps in Germany, including Ingolstadt, has the honour to state that he is informed that the few British prisoners of war at this camp are very badly fed, and that parcels arrive with great irregularity, their contents being frequently abstracted.

The matter appears to be one calling for immediate action, and Sir E. Grey would be grateful if the United States Ambassador at Berlin could be requested by telegram to endeavour to remove the subjects of complaint.

Foreign Office, November 22, 1915.

No. 15.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 24.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 15th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 13th October,† and enclosing a copy of the correspondence between Mr. Gerard and the commandant of the prisoners of war camp at Stendal respecting the complaints made by some of the British prisoners there.

American Embassy, London,
November 23, 1915.

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† See No. 1.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 15.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 16, 1915.

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th ultimo, relative to the camp where British prisoners of war are interned at Stendal, and to Mr. Osborne's report of the 9th instant in the premises,* I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy, and translation in English, of a letter which I wrote to the commandant of the camp in question with regard to certain points raised in connection with Mr. Osborne's visit, as well as a copy and translation of a letter which I received from the commandant in reply.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

* See No. 9.

Enclosure 2 in No. 15.

Mr. Gerard to Commandant of the Camp for Prisoners of War, Stendal.

(Translation.)

Sir, *November* 6, 1915.

WITH reference to the visit which Mr. Osborne, a member of the staff of the Embassy, paid to your camp on the 4th instant, I have the honour to bring the following to your kind attention :—

In accordance with the agreement concluded between the Embassy and the Royal Prussian Ministry of War concerning visits to concentration camps for British prisoners of war, it is one of the duties of the representatives of the Embassy to discuss with the commandant those matters which were brought to their attention for possible change or improvement. As the representative of the Embassy who visited Stendal on the 4th November, after his inspection, did not have an opportunity of seeing you personally, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the following points which he thought worthy of consideration :—

1. During his conversation with the British prisoners of war he heard many complaints with regard to the non-arrival of letters which had been sent from the camp to England. The head of the station for postal examination admitted that in some cases letters had been detained beyond the ten days prescribed by the regulations. The cause for this was the small number of interpreters who have to censor these letters, and who are often overburdened with work. My representative noticed that for more than 7,000 French prisoners twelve interpreters were present, and that two of these spoke English and employed part of their time on the English mail. I therefore propose that the staff of interpreters who have to look after the English mail be increased, in order that the letters which leave the camp may be forwarded immediately after the prescribed ten days and the incoming mail may be distributed at once.

2. My representative observed that a great number of prisoners only possessed one blanket, whereas the Embassy believes that the camp regulations prescribe two blankets. I therefore request that every prisoner who only possesses one blanket be furnished with a second one.

3. My representative found that few if any overcoats had been distributed by the camp authorities, and the prisoners seemed to experience difficulties in obtaining other articles of clothing, such as boots, underwear, shirts, &c. I therefore request that distribution of overcoats be commenced to those prisoners who are without them, and that the process of distribution of other articles of clothing be facilitated for the prisoners.

4. The prisoners asked that a space be provided in which they could play football, as is the case in most of the other camps.

I venture to request information as to how far you are willing to meet the wishes of the prisoners and my proposal, which are in accordance with the agreement between the Ministry of War and the Embassy. Should you not be in a position to make changes in the manner proposed, the matter can be taken up by the Embassy with the Ministry of War. I hope, however, that this will not be necessary.

With my best thanks for the kind reception accorded to my representative in the camp at Stendal, and at the same time thanking you in advance for a reply, I remain,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD, *Ambassador.*

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Enclosure 3 in No. 15.

Commandant of the Camp for Prisoners of War, Stendal, to Mr. Gerard.

(Translation.)

Your Excellency, *Stendal, November* 7, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to reply the following to your Excellency's letter of the 6th November :—

1. It is correct that there are only 2 interpreters for 299 Englishmen. The cause of this is that the English prisoners have not arrived here in great numbers but singly, and that this need not make itself felt as yet.

Arrangements are being made that the mail will be forwarded in accordance with the regulations. At the same time a control will be exercised with regard to the space of time which the postal matter arriving here from the foreign country has taken.

2. Two blankets are prescribed for and furnished to every prisoner. However, as the prisoners unfortunately steal among themselves and take the blankets of their comrades in order to cut them up for other purposes, the blame for the lack of blankets often lies with the prisoners. In this manner, in a working camp of 2,000 men, 600 blankets went astray during the course of six months. The missing blankets will be issued to-morrow.

3. That not all of the prisoners possess overcoats is due to the fact that many prisoners did not bring their coats with them when they arrived at the camp. In view of the frequent transfer of the prisoners, it is therefore very difficult to provide the necessary number of overcoats. 5,000 overcoats have been ordered from stock, the despatch of which has already been announced, and every prisoner will be supplied with an overcoat within a short time.

4. In the same way as a swimming-pool has been arranged for the prisoners, a space for the playing of football will also be provided.

At the same time I have the honour to request your Excellency that in a telegram advising the visit of a representative of the Embassy, the camp may be informed of the name of the gentleman to be expected and the time of his arrival at the station.

Arrangements can then be made from here in due time, so that a carriage may be at the station and an officer appointed to act as guide to the gentleman in question in the camp, in case I am unable to accompany him myself.

With the expression of my highest consideration,

I am, &c.

KRAUSE,

Colonel and Commandant of the Camp.

No. 16.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 25.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 15th instant, transmitting copies of reports on the prisoners' camps at Munich and Ingolstadt.

American Embassy, London,
November 24, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 16.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 15, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copies of reports made to me by Mr. Jackson of visits to places where British officers and men are interned as prisoners of war at Munich and Ingoldstadt, in Bavaria.

Yours, &c.

JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 16.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Munich.

A LARGE hall in the "Kriegsschule," containing about 110 beds, is used as a hospital ("Lazaret B") for British and French prisoners of war, officers and men. In it there were at the time of my visit two English officers (First Lieutenant S. Vaughan, 8th battalion, "The Buffs," and First Lieutenant G. G. Whitaker, 10th battalion, York and Lancaster) and eighteen men, with all of whom I spoke at length out of hearing of any German. All had been wounded in the last days of September, and had been brought to Munich on the 10th October. They had first been treated in a hospital at Douai, where there were French (prisoner) doctors and nurses under German supervision, and had then been transported to Valenciennes. They said that they had been treated "fairly," but that the railway journey from Douai to Valenciennes had been a hard one, as the trip was made in freight-cars, and that there was an apparent lack of trained nurses and insufficient accommodation at Valenciennes. They said, however, that there had been no discrimination against them of any kind at any time, and that during the journey from Valenciennes to Munich, when they were transported in a lazaret train, they had received exactly the same treatment as the German wounded. All thought that the treatment of their wounds by the German surgeons was excellent. The two officers, each of whom had been wounded in the leg, had been able to take their first walk in the garden on the day before my visit, and they expect to be transferred to an officer prisoner camp (probably Ingolstadt) before Christmas. They receive pay at the rate of 60 M. a month, of which an amount of 40 M. is retained for their food. Both officers and men are permitted to smoke freely, and are given beer to drink. There were no armed guards in the hospital building, and among the nurses was at least one sister who speaks English. Some of the men had already received parcels, and all, with the exception of the following (six), had had letters from their friends at home since they have been in Munich :—

Corporal C. C. Vail (790), 9th battalion, East Surreys;
Lance-Corporal Michael Dillon (17023), 8th battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers;
Private Tom Markham (362), 9th battalion, East Surreys;
Private John Woliter (15224), 8th battalion, Somerset Light Infantry;
Private John Goodale (10877), 2nd Queen's; and
Private Thomas McKenzie (16091), 10th Scottish Rifles (who had had an attack of tetanus and been given up, but who is now recovering).

About a fortnight or so ago a Captain Nicolls, Somerset Regiment, had died in this hospital, and had been given a military funeral. By invitation of the Bavarian military authorities the services were conducted by the Venerable Wm. Edgar Nies, M.A., Archdeacon of the American Episcopal Churches in Europe, who is spending the winter in Munich, and since that time Mr. Nies has been permitted to visit the prisoners, to whom he has given tobacco and other comforts, and who spoke with appreciation of his attentions.

I did not visit the men's camp at Pucheim, because I ascertained that no new British prisoners had been brought there since it was visited by Dr. Ohnesorg in June.

Before visiting the hospital I had called at the Ministry of War and made the suggestion that the British soldier prisoners, of whom there are only 100 in Bavaria, should be brought together in one camp, which Major-General Köberle said he would take into consideration.

November 12, 1915.

Enclosure 3 in No. 16.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Ingolstadt.

INGOLSTADT was visited by Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Pyne in June (report dated the 26th June, 1915).* The "Gefangenenlager" consists of a number of forts, lying at some distance from the city proper, of a men's camp, and of a large lazaret. During my visits to Ingolstadt to-day I saw and talked freely with all the British officers and men who are at present in the several parts of the camp.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 7.

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In Forts VIII, IX, and X only officer prisoners of war (with soldier servants) are interned. In Fort VIII Squadron Commander Edward Briggs, R.N.A.S., who was there at the time of Dr. Ohnesorg's visit, is the only British officer, but he stated expressly that he wishes to remain where he is, as he thinks that, under existing conditions he is able to employ his time more profitably than he could elsewhere. There has been some misunderstanding about Lieutenant Commander Briggs' military rank, and as yet he has received only the allowance paid to a subaltern. The matter is being cleared up, however, and I was told that he would probably soon receive the full amount to which his rank entitles him, including back pay. In Fort IX there were three British officers, Lieutenant Allsopp, London Scottish (mentioned by Dr. Ohnesorg), Lieutenant Scholefield, Royal Flying Corps, and Captain Wilson, Scottish Rifles, attached to the Royal Flying Corps, the last two having been brought to Ingolstadt in September. These officers had no complaint to make, except with regard to the ventilation of their room, which they share with French and Russian officers, with whom they have friendly disputes in regard to the temperature—particularly at night. There had recently been a change in the commandant of this fort, and general conditions are improving under his administration. In Fort X Lieutenant W. M. Crabbie, 1st Lowland Brigade, Field Artillery, attached to the Royal Flying Corps, was the only British officer. He had been captured in July, and after treatment for his wounds in a hospital in Cologne (where he said the treatment was good) had been brought to Ingolstadt on the 12th September. He had no complaint to make, but would prefer to be interned in a place where there are other British officers.

In Fort "Friedrichshafen" there are only Jews, principally Russian, but some French, and one English (men). Special attention is paid here to ritualistic cooking, &c. The solitary Englishman (a London boy) was lonely at first, but he has now found comrades who speak English, and he asked me to tell the English soldiers in the camp that he wishes to remain where he is. In the men's camp there were eleven British soldiers, including one lance-corporal. One of these men was in the camp lazaret at the time of my visit, having come there because it was warmer than in his regular quarters, and as he had a slight cold. When I saw him he was walking about and in good spirits, as were all the other ten, with whom I talked freely and at length. None had any important complaint to make, and, in reply to my express request, they said that there was nothing to which they would care to have me give especial attention. All were dressed in their own uniforms (some of which showed evidence of wear), and most of them had English overcoats. Those who had no overcoats said that they could get them from the German authorities if necessary, but that they preferred to wait for the present to see if they would not be sent from home. All would like new boots, as they are not pleased with the wooden-soled boots supplied locally. All had been wounded, and had not as yet been called on to work outside the camp. I told the lance-corporal to make out a list of the clothing requirements of the men by name, and asked the commandant to see that it was sent to the Embassy promptly. These men are all in touch with their friends at home. They do not all live together, but are housed in two groups of five and six, being allowed to see each other freely.

The lazaret within the city consists of a number of large brick and wood buildings. In the officers' ward I found Lieutenant B. Ratcliffe, West Yorkshires (mentioned by Dr. Ohnesorg), who had broken his arm again, and had been transferred from Fort IX; Lieutenant A. Kemble, 1st Suffolks, who had been transferred from the lazaret at Nürnberg; and Lieutenant Charles Turner, Connaught Rangers. All three officers were walking about when I saw them, and they said that their treatment is satisfactory. They are permitted to see and help the men in the other wards. In the lazaret there were twenty-eight British soldiers in four different wards, according to the nature of their cases. Most of these men had been brought to Ingolstadt during October, and few had had any news from their homes as yet, but all had been permitted to write. Special hospital diet is given to those who need it, and one man spoke of his food as "splendid." Several of these men are to be repatriated when their condition permits. They all spoke of their treatment as considerate and good, both in Ingolstadt and in the hospitals in which they had been before and *en route*. Among these men is one Sikh, who will probably be sent to Zossen (Weinberg) when convalescent. This man is able to make his wishes known through one of the German hospital attendants, but there is no one with whom he can really converse. Special attention is given to his food, as he will eat no meat.

November 13, 1915.

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No. 17.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received November 27.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, with reference to the note Sir Edward Grey was good enough to address to him on the 3rd instant,* respecting the removal of British prisoners of war from camps in which their numbers are small to others where more of their fellow-countrymen are to be found, has the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a letter, dated the 17th instant, from the Ambassador at Berlin in the premises.

London, November 26, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 17, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 23rd ultimo the attention of the Prussian Ministry of War was invited to the fact that in several prisoner of war camps, namely, Bautzen, Chemnitz, Königsbrück, and Zwickau II, in Saxony, Amberg and Hammelburg, in Bavaria, and Görlitz, Neuhammer (Queis), and Sagan, in Prussia, the number of British prisoners was small, and a request was made that, if practicable, these men should be removed to other camps in which there are a larger number of their fellow-countrymen, and that the Ministry has advised this Embassy that the necessary steps to bring about the desired end have now been taken.

I have &c.

JAMES W. GERARD.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 44.

No. 18.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 23rd instant,† enclosing a copy of a despatch from the United States Ambassador at Berlin transmitting copies of correspondence with the commandant of the camp at Stendal respecting the treatment of the British prisoners of war there.

Sir E. Grey is much obliged to Mr. Gerard for calling the commandant's attention to the needs of the prisoners at this camp, and he would be grateful if he could be informed in due course whether the reforms suggested by his Excellency have been carried out.

Foreign Office, November 29, 1915.

† See No. 15.

No. 19.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 1.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 18th instant, enclosing a copy of a report on the camp at Burg b/Magdeburg.

American Embassy, London,
November 30, 1915.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 19.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
November 18, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a report made by Mr. Jackson of a visit to the officer prisoners camp at Burg b/Magdeburg, to-day, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 19.

Report of Visit to Detention Camp at Burg b/Magdeburg.

SINCE my last visit to this camp, on the 3rd June, further improvements have been made. A lawn tennis court is in course of construction, the new (second) dining room has been opened, and the canteen facilities have been materially increased. The mess is now managed by an international committee composed of four Russian officers and one of each of the following nationalists: Belgium, British, and French, and the Commandant stated that he sees that the wishes of the minority members are respected as far as possible. Officers pay at present 1·60 M. per day for their meals, but it is expected that this charge will soon be reduced to 1·50 M. without change in their quality or quantity. Officers are allowed to buy beer and light wines, and occasionally permission is given them to buy champagne—for birthday celebrations, &c. Four English soldiers have been brought from the camp at Zerbst, to act (among others) as officers' servants, and all expressed themselves as satisfied with their lot. There was no further objection in regard to the latrines. The rooms for senior officers in the new wooden barracks are comfortable and well heated. Mr. Russell and I talked freely and alone with the British officers, and none of them had any complaint to make in regard to their quarters or treatment. Most of them have been prisoners for at least a year, however, and all would be glad if something could be done to bring about their exchange.

At the time of our visit there were more than 550 officer prisoners on the camp's books, including nineteen British, and about 460 Russians, the remainder being Belgian or French. Among the British were the three officers we had seen in June, and Lieutenants Grenfell Elliott (Cheshire Regiment), Hugh Bevan (Intelligence Department), James Taylor (Somerset Regiment), and Hugh Hibbert (King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry), as well as twelve of the officers who had been subjected to "reprisal" treatment. There had been fourteen "submarine reprisal" officers taken from Burg last spring, and all had been sent back there when the differential treatment was discontinued, the camp having been greatly improved during their absence. Two of these officers, Captain Robin Grey and Lieutenant Ivan Hay, were subsequently transferred, at their own request, to Blankenburg and Clausthal, respectively. Some of the others now wish to be sent elsewhere, and their wishes will be brought to the attention of the Ministry of War.

We found three of the British officers in prison in the town (where "submarine reprisal" officers had been interned). Captain B. W. Allistone and Lieutenant C. F. L. Templar, were awaiting a re-trial for an attempt to escape, which is to take place at Magdeburg on the 9th December, and Captain George Elliott (Royal Irish Regiment) is to be tried for having given a cheque for 3*l.* to a German soldier. Captain Elliott maintains that the gift was made out of gratitude for services rendered during the year he has been in Burg, but the charge against him is of attempted bribery, and the German soldier is imprisoned on the charge of having accepted the bribe. These officers made a further attempt to escape from their present prison, and they are now in cells but permitted to exercise for two hours a day together in the prison court, and to take their meals together. They are allowed to smoke, to receive mail and parcels as usual, and to bathe (cold) daily with one hot bath per week.

The attempt to escape from the camp which had been made by Captain Allistone and Lieutenant Templar was by means of a tunnel cut through the floor of one of the barracks, and a part of the charge against them is "destruction of Government property." After the tunnel was discovered several officers were searched for money

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and contraband articles. These officers were stripped while their clothing was being inspected, as had been done on previous occasions, but the German authorities claim that the search was conducted with all possible consideration ("in der schonendsten und liebenswürdigsten Weise").

November 18, 1915.

No. 20.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 26th November* and previous correspondence respecting the internment of small numbers of British military prisoners of war in certain camps in Germany where they are in a more or less isolated position amongst prisoners of other nationalities, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if the thanks of His Majesty's Government can be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin for the action which his Excellency has been good enough to take in this matter, and of which he informed Mr. Page in his letter of the 17th November.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1915.

* See No. 17.

No. 21.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 29th ultimo, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 22nd November† respecting complaints made by British prisoners in the camp at Ingolstadt.

For the guidance of the Foreign Office, Mr. Page ventures to point out that Mr. Jackson's report of the 13th November to which reference is made was transmitted to Sir Edward Grey on the 24th of that month.‡

American Embassy, London,
December 3, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 21.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
November 29, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, enclosing a copy of a note from the British Foreign Office dated the 22nd November, respecting complaints made by British prisoners of war in the prisoners' camp at Ingolstadt, and in this connection to invite attention to the report of a visit which was made to that camp by Mr. Jackson on the 13th November. At the time of that visit the British prisoners had no important complaint to make and in reply to a direct enquiry, which was made out of the hearing of any German officer or man, they stated that there was nothing to which they would care to have especial attention paid. The men were in good spirits and there was no evidence to show that any of them were badly fed. All were in touch with their friends at home and no complaint was made with regard to irregularity in the receipt of parcels.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

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† See No. 14.

‡ See No. 16.

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No. 22.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 29th ultimo, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 17th November,* respecting the conditions obtaining in the prisoners' camp at Wittenberg.

American Embassy, London,
December 3, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 29, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, in which was enclosed a copy of a note from the British Foreign Office dated the 17th November, in regard to the conditions obtaining in the prisoners' camp at Wittenberg.

With respect to this I beg to inform you that the matter of the striking of the British medical officer by a German non-commissioned officer was, as stated to me by the British officer himself, arranged to his satisfaction and a formal apology was made by the German. I am informed, however, that in spite of this apology the non-commissioned officer was punished by the Commandant of the camp and that the guards were especially instructed that they should not strike any prisoner of war. Any more formal investigation of the incident in question would lead to the prolonged detention of the British officer, whose repatriation has been promised for the 6th December, and therefore I shall take no further action on this point. Representations have been made, however, with regard to the use of dogs in this or in any other camp where prisoners of war are interned.

Orders have been issued for the transfer of the civilians from Wittenberg, and I have been informed that some if not all of them will go to Ruhleben on the first proximo.

I have further to state that I have now been informed by the Prussian Ministry of War that overcoats have been furnished to all British prisoners at Wittenberg, and that all the British prisoners are being paid for work performed by them outside the camp which is not in connection with its administration. It is said that the British prisoners had not cared to wait in line in order to receive their pay for such work, on certain occasions, but that the money was subsequently put to their credit on the camp's books.

While adding that I hope equal publicity will be given to this letter to that which was given to the original report about conditions at Wittenberg,

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

* See No. 10.

No. 23.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to state that he would be greatly obliged if Mr. Page would be good enough to convey to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, and Mr. Jackson, Sir E. Grey's thanks for the trouble they have taken in connection with the compilation of the reports on the internment camps for prisoners of war at Munich and Ingolstadt, copies of which accompanied Mr. Page's note of the 24th ultimo.†

Sir E. Grey would be grateful if Mr. Gerard could arrange for all the British officers, who do not require hospital treatment and who desire to be transferred, to be accommodated in one fort at Ingolstadt.

† See No. 16.

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He trusts that a proper recreation ground and opportunities for exercise are provided for the prisoners interned at that camp, and ventures to point out that this subject is not referred to in Mr. Jackson's report.

He has the honour to add that he would be glad if, in the event of this camp being again visited by a representative of the United States Embassy at Berlin, further information could be furnished as to the food supplied to the prisoners.

Foreign Office, December 6, 1915.

No. 24.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 25th ultimo, enclosing a report on the camp at Blankenburg.

American Embassy, London,
December 6, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 24.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *Berlin, November* 25, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a report of a visit paid by Messrs. Jackson and Russell to the British prisoners of war at Blankenburg this afternoon.

I am, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 24.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Blankenburg i/Mark.

SINCE my last visit to this camp on the 10th June practically no changes have taken place. The atmosphere of the camp is excellent. The British officers now have a mess-room by themselves, in which Mr. Russell and I took tea, together with the German officer on duty and the interpreter. In addition to Colonel Gordon there are now twelve British officers in the camp, the four who came since our last visit being Major Robert A. Gray, Captains Robin Grey, J. H. C. Coulston, and F. J. Graham Watson. Colonel Gordon still occupies a room by himself, being attended by his own officer's servant, who was brought to the camp in order to replace the R.A.M.C. soldier who is to be sent back to England in December. There are also four other British soldiers who are doing duty as officers' servants, all of whom appear to be contented. At the time of our visit some of these men were playing hockey in the snow on the tennis court. Captain Coulston, who has been in various hospitals since his capture, was recently transferred from Beeskow. One of his legs is still shorter than the other, and his wound has not entirely healed, but he is able to walk. His condition does not apparently entitle him to be repatriated, but it does not seem probable that he will be fit for active service for some time to come.

The officers had no complaint to make, and the only wish which they expressed was for more space in which to exercise. Adjoining the grounds, within the barbed-wire enclosure, is a wood in which they would like to walk, but on making their wish known I was told that this could not be granted, at present at least, as to do so would present increased opportunity for attempts to escape.

November 25, 1915.

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No. 25.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 30th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a report on the conditions obtaining in the lazaret at Wittenberg.

Mr. Page begs to add, for Sir Edward Grey's information, that he has not received any special instructions from the Secretary of State in Washington relative to the submission of these reports.

American Embassy, London,
December 6, 1915.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, November* 30, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of a short report, written by Dr. Karl Ohnesorg, U.S.N., and dated the 22nd November, dealing with the conditions in the lazaret at Wittenberg; this report is for transmission to the British Foreign Office to be treated by them as the reports formerly transmitted from this Embassy, subject, however, to any instructions that you may have received from the Department relative to the submission of these reports.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 25.

Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *Berlin, November* 22, 1915.

IN obedience to your verbal order, I visited, on the 30th November, the prison camp at Wittenberg. As this camp has been recently visited by yourself and Mr. Osborne and Mr. Russell, and fully reported upon by them, I need not go into a detailed description.

My attention was chiefly directed to an inspection of the lazaret and the medical care given the interned soldiers. I talked freely, alone, with the two English medical officers, Captain Vidal and Major Priestley. Adjoining the main compound is a separate compound containing the hospital. These barracks are built of wood with large well-lighted and well-ventilated wards. They were clean, free from odour, and supplied with the necessary furniture. Two stoves supplied sufficient warmth.

The beds were of iron with wood springs and supplied with straw mattresses, with the usual supply of blankets, pillows, &c. The different nationalities were given barracks by themselves. That for the British was under the direct charge of the two British medical officers mentioned above. They had three of British hospital corps as nurses, who were assisted by British prisoners. The lazaret is under the direct charge of a German medical officer, a "Generalarzt," who has some of the German hospital corps as assistants. The entire work of caring for and treating the sick is done by interned medical officers and hospital corps men from amongst the interned. Thirteen medical officer prisoners are here interned. Two only are British, and three hospital corps men of the British army, as mentioned above, are detailed for this work.

The hospital has a separate kitchen, presided over by women cooks.

The special facilities and appliances were rather crude. The operating room, for example, was poorly equipped and not at all up to date.

Unfortunately, much had taken place in the camp which was not in accordance with recognised rules for the treatment of prisoners of war. This, happily, is changed, and the two medical officers, as well as the British enlisted personnel, with whom I talked, said that at present they had no complaints to make.

In Wittenberg was one of the worst, if not the worst, typhus epidemics among the

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German camps, but since this disease was stamped out the health of the interned personnel has been very good.

There are about 600 British prisoners engaged in agricultural and industrial work in the immediate vicinity of Wittenberg, and an inspection of these "Arbeitslager" I respectfully suggest would be advisable.

I have, &c.
KARL OHNESORG.

No. 26.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 30th ultimo,* enclosing a report by Mr. Jackson on the officers' camp at Burg, received from the United States Ambassador at Berlin.

Sir E. Grey would be much obliged if Mr. Page would request Mr. Gerard to express his thanks to Mr. Jackson for his report.

Sir E. Grey would be glad to be informed in due course as to the result of the trial of Capt. B. W. Allistone, Lieut. C. F. L. Templar and Capt. George Elliott.

Sir E. Grey does not propose to publish Mr. Page's note pending the receipt of information as to the result of the trial of these officers.

Foreign Office, December 7, 1915.

* See No. 19.

No. 27.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 3rd instant respecting the conditions obtaining at the prisoners' camp at Wittenberg,† has the honour to request that Mr. Page will be good enough to convey to Mr. Gerard an expression of Sir E. Grey's cordial thanks for the successful efforts made by his Excellency with a view to securing an improvement in the lot of the British subjects detained at that camp.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1915.

† See No. 22.

No. 28.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 14.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 3rd instant, transmitting a copy of a report of a visit to the prisoner of war camp at Quedlinburg.

American Embassy, London,
December 13, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 28.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 3, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a report of a visit made by Messrs. Jackson and Osborne yesterday to the prisoner of war camp at Quedlinburg.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 28.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Quedlinburg.

SINCE my visit to Quedlinburg on the 27th May, there has been no material change in this camp, which has never been completely filled and which contained only about 2,000 prisoners to-day. On the camp's books there are about 100 British prisoners, of whom Mr. Osborne and I found about sixty in the camp, the others being absent on working parties. Most of these sixty had been in the camp on the occasion of my former visit, but a few had come in the meantime from other camps and lazarets. Some had come from Gardelegen and one from Neuhammer.

The last-mentioned was one of those who had complained to Mr. Osborne that his parcels had not been forwarded from the working camp in which he had previously been employed (Mr. Osborne's report on Neuhammer, dated the 18th October),* but that the parcels had arrived a few days after Mr. Osborne's visit.

Mr. Osborne and I talked freely with all the British prisoners, and none had any important complaint to make. Overcoats had been supplied by the German authorities to all who had had none last week, when the weather suddenly became cold, and although relatively few were entirely dressed in British uniforms, all said that they had plenty of warm clothing which had been sent to them from home or furnished in the camp. Many spoke of their dislike of the food provided for them, and several said that they lived almost entirely from the contents of their parcels which, they stated, arrive regularly and in good condition. Several of these men said, however, that the quality of the food provided had improved, and the quantity was sufficient. Practically all seemed in good physical condition and none looked poorly fed. Several severely wounded had been repatriated since my former visit. There had been no serious cases of illness among the British prisoners and none were in the camp lazaret. There had been no deaths among them since my previous visit. One man wore the Red Cross brassard, and said that when captured he had been serving as a stretcher-bearer. On enquiry, I found that his right to be sent home was being investigated by the local authorities. Several of the men had been employed on agricultural working parties, and had received pay at the rate of 1·80 M. per week. This is the lowest rate of pay, as men who are able and willing to do work requiring any technical knowledge, are paid up to 10 M. per week, or possibly more. The British prisoners are still distributed throughout the camp in several different blocks, and are permitted to be together occasionally only. The group which had had charge of the latrines (in their own block) continue voluntarily to do the same work, the authorities, as they told me, having offered to put them on another detail if they wished it. All the men said that there was absolutely no discrimination against them, and their relations with the authorities seemed to be good. Generally, the atmosphere of the camp seemed better than it had been on my previous visit. We found three men who had just been sentenced to three days' arrest (cells) for an offence against discipline, upon the complaint of the French non-commissioned officer in charge of their barracks. This complaint the commandant permitted me to investigate freely, and I found that there was a question of veracity between the accused and the non-commissioned officer. Two of the men admitted that they had acted as they would not have done towards one of their own superiors, and the interpreter (an English soldier) seemed inclined to side with the French non-commissioned officer. The commandant obviously wished to be fair, but thought that the authority of the chief of the barracks should be maintained, and as the punishment was not a severe one, it seemed advisable to let the matter drop. I recommended that future incidents of the kind might be avoided if all the British prisoners were put in one group under their own non-commissioned officers, and the commandant said that he would take this into consideration. There was nothing in the camp to which the men wanted me to give especial attention. Religious services have been held here by the Reverend Mr. Williams, British Chaplain in Berlin.

On our way back to Berlin Mr. Osborne and I stopped at Halberstadt, and called at several lazarets where wounded British prisoners had been treated, but found none present. We were told that there were no longer any British wounded in that city.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 43.

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No. 29.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 14.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 7th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 19th November,* and enclosing a copy of a report of an inspection of the British prisoners employed at Spreenhagen.

American Embassy, London,
December 13, 1915.

* See No. 13.

Enclosure 1 in No. 29.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 7, 1915.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 20th November, 1915, transmitting copies of a note from Sir Edward Grey, dated the 19th November, 1915, relative to the British prisoners of war employed at Spreenhagen, I have the honour to enclose herewith copies of a report of an inspection of the British prisoners in question, by Mr. Lithgow Osborne, a member of my staff.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 29.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Spreenhagen (Work Camp).

ON the 4th December, I accompanied Mr. Jackson on a visit to the British prisoners at work near Spreenhagen, referred to in the note from the British Foreign Office to the American Embassy at London, dated the 19th November, 1915. We reached Spreenhagen by a military motor from Berlin in about an hour and three-quarters, being accompanied by a "Rittmeister" from the War Ministry. The work camp is situated about 4 kilom. east of Erkner, which is itself about 30 kilom. east of Berlin.

We found fifty-seven prisoners, including one sergeant; a second sergeant had been removed to a hospital, a short time before, on account of a temporary illness. The quarters of the men are in a well-constructed two-room barrack, especially built for them, in which are two rows of "double-decker" iron bedsteads. The rooms are higher than the ordinary barracks, and are well lighted, naturally and artificially, and well heated by a stove in each room. There is sufficient space in both rooms for tables and benches, and to store clothing, &c.

The living quarters are surrounded by a small compound, containing within its limits a latrine and a washing trough, for which water is obtained from a near-by pump. All these features correspond with what is to be found in the detention camps proper, and they are apparently quite satisfactory.

A hundred yards from the living quarters is a second house containing the mess-room and kitchen. The former is heated by a stove; the latter is provided with a brick cooking oven and two large cauldrons. There is also a small canteen in the kitchen, where the men can obtain extra supplies.

The English sergeant, who was assisting in the kitchen, informed us that the food was good. We tasted the meal then preparing—thick soup with meat and potatoes in it—and found it excellent. The men in general afterwards contradicted their non-commissioned officer's judgment of the food.

All the men at this work camp were originally in Döberitz, and volunteered last May to go to Spreenhagen. They are all from various Scotch regiments. It is evident that they are tired of their work, and they expressed a desire to return to Döberitz. Their work is the levelling of a considerable hill by filling carts with dirt and spreading it upon the surrounding level land. The hill was formed originally from the sweepings of the Berlin streets ("Müll"), but has been untouched for fifteen years

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and has evidently lost any unpleasant character it may have once had. The men complained of the work as being distasteful only because they thought that it was too hard, *i.e.*, that their hours were too long ; they spoke of the work as simply "shovelling dirt," and said there was no unpleasant odour connected with it. The men leave the camp at shortly after 7 and stop at 5 in the afternoon, returning to the mess-house for an hour in the middle of the day for dinner. They seemed all well supplied in the way of clothing, and stated that their parcels came through from England safely and with reasonable regularity.

Aside from the question of food, the complaints which we heard were relative to difficulty of access to the doctor, who resided some distance away. The officer who accompanied us gave orders that this should be made easier, and that a special examination should be made of a few of the men who were suffering from boils. The men informed us, however, that there had been little illness in the camp.

The work they considered too severe, and asked for a half-holiday on Saturdays. The German non-commissioned officer in charge of the camp thought that no change could officially be made, but that, in practice, it might be possible to stop work two hours earlier on Saturdays. Sunday is, of course, a holiday, and the men expressed a wish to be permitted to play football on that day, outside the compound. The "Rittmeister" said he would take this matter up with Colonel Alberti, commandant at Döberitz.

During the summer the men had excellent bathing facilities in the canal, branching from the Spree. For washing it is now possible for them to obtain hot water in the mess-house.

The hill at Spreenhagen should in no way be confused with the "Riesefelder" to the north of Berlin, where the refuse and sewage from the city is taken to be used as fertiliser. The work at Spreenhagen is simply agricultural work of a rather boring kind, but it could in no way be considered more menial or degrading than ordinary agricultural work.

LITHGOW OSBORNE.

No. 30.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks his Excellency's note of the 6th instant,* enclosing a report by Dr. Ohnesorg, U.S.N., on the camp and hospital at Wittenberg, received through the United States Ambassador at Berlin.

Sir E. Grey would be glad if Mr. Gerard could arrange for the inspection at an early date of the working camps in the vicinity of Wittenberg, as suggested by Dr. Ohnesorg, and has the honour to add that he is in communication with the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, with the view to the provision of a motor-car for the use of the United States Embassy at Berlin, in order to facilitate the inspection of working camps.

Foreign Office, December 14, 1915.

* See No. 25.

No. 31.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 22nd October, respecting the conditions at the camp at Dyrotz, has the honour to state that he has received serious complaints with regard to this camp, and would be grateful if the United States Ambassador at Berlin could be requested to cause it to be inspected at an early date.

Foreign Office, December 16, 1915.

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No. 32.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received December 22.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 10th instant, transmitting a copy of a report of a visit paid to the prisoners of war camp at Merseburg.

American Embassy, London,
December 20, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 32.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 10, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a report of a visit paid to the prisoners of war camp at Merseburg by Messrs. Jackson and Osborne on the 8th instant, and to be, &c.

JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 32.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Merseburg.

December 8, 1915.

PRACTICALLY the only change in the interior of this camp since my visit on the 15th May, 1915, has been the construction of a bath, consisting of an undressing room, the bath proper, and disinfecting room, and a dressing room on the usual system. The camp is still divided by wire fences into eight company enclosures, each containing six huts (not tents, as stated by mistake in my previous report). The British prisoners are distributed through the several companies. On its rolls to-day, when the camp was visited by Mr. Osborne and myself, there were 19,839 prisoners of war, of whom only 6,422 were in the camp itself, the remainder being absent on working parties. Among the 340 British on the rolls there were 165 in the camp, principally non-commissioned officers, men unfit for work or men who were unwilling to work. With these men Mr. Osborne and I talked freely, and we heard no important complaints. Some of them had been in this camp only a few weeks, having been transferred from Gardelegen, Salzwedel, and Wittenberg, and practically all of these said that they had benefited by the change. The atmosphere of the camp was not cheerful, however, owing to the fact that it had been a full year since most of the prisoners had been taken, but the prisoners said that their relations with the German military authorities were good, and that they were well treated. Mr. Osborne and I tasted the mid-day "soup" and found it palatable and nourishing; but here, as elsewhere, the diet is of a monotonous character, and the British prisoners depend to a considerable extent upon the receipt of parcels from home. Few of the British prisoners had complete suits of uniform, and although all admitted that there was no discrimination against them in other ways, some said that the French prisoners had been favoured in the distribution of clothing. This was admitted by the military authorities, who said that it was considered as merely proper that those who were ready to work outside the camp should be treated better than those who were unwilling to do so. Several men, among whom were some who had recently come to Merseburg, were without overcoats, but their numbers were taken, and I was told that they would be supplied at an early date. The numbers were also taken by the German authorities of other men who said they were short of clothing. Several had sold articles of British clothing which they had received from home, and others had purchased articles from French prisoners. One man complained to me that he had been punished for "having a hole in his trousers" (as he said), but on investigation I found that he had cut down a new pair of trousers, which had been

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given him by the German authorities, in order to make a pair of boxing shorts. One man had a black eye, another a sprained thumb, and a third a broken nose, as the result of boxing matches. A number of men were eligible for repatriation, but had not been sent home with the last transport owing to some misunderstanding.

There were no R.A.M.C. soldiers in the camp, but Captain Lafayette-Lander, R.A.M.C., had come there a few weeks ago from Wittenberg. He said that the conditions at Merseburg are entirely different from what they had been in that camp. In the lazaret there were only two British soldiers, one of whom is eligible to repatriation. The British medical officer treats the British prisoners, and he said the general health of the camp is good.

Religious services have been held by the Rev. H. M. Williams, British Chaplain in Berlin.

No. 33.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey. – (*Received December* 27.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to quote the following telegram, dated the 23rd instant, from the Ambassador at Berlin :—

"Military authorities are willing to permit prisoner camp visits without advance notification provided assured officially of reciprocity. Please reply soon as possible.

"Have been informed prisoners from working camp, Spreenhagen, sent back to Döberitz."

London, December 24, 1915.

No. 34.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received December* 31.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 17th instant, transmitting reports of visits to the "working" camps at Königsmoor and Hakenmoor bei Ströhen.

American Embassy, London,
December 30, 1915.

Enclosure 1 in No. 34.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 17, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits to the "working" camps at Königsmoor, Kreis Harburg, and Hakenmoor bei Ströhen, Kreis Sulingen, which were made by Mr. Jackson, and to be

Yours, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 34.

Reports on Visits to Detention Camps.

(1.)

Königsmoor (Kreis Harburg).

December 15, 1915.

THE camp at Königsmoor, Kreis Harburg, on the railway line between Hamburg and Bremen, was built to accommodate 1,000 prisoners of war, but is now

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being doubled in size. When completed there will be four wooden barracks divided into two rooms each. The bunks are arranged in two or three tiers leaving about one-third of the floor space free. The barracks are well heated by stoves and lighted by gas. There is also a small well-arranged lazaret for light cases in charge of a Belgian sanitary soldier, all serious cases being sent to the parent camp at Soltau, of which Königsmoor is one of many "working" branch camps. The camp is visited frequently by a physician who lives at Tostedt, about 5 miles distant, who can be called in case of emergency. The health of the camp is good, and there have been no epidemics. The men are obliged to bathe once a week (warm douches), but may bathe more frequently if they care to do so. The latrines were clean and seemed unobjectionable. The kitchen is in a separate building outside the barbed-wire enclosure. Part of one room has been arranged as a chapel, where Protestant and Catholic services are held. There is also a repair shop, where I saw Belgian tailors and shoemakers at work. The camp has a good supply of clothing on hand for the use of the prisoners. The mail and parcel room was in charge of French and Belgian prisoners. A Belgian was in charge of the canteen, where the prices were the same as those charged the German soldiers.

The camp contains at present only about 250 prisoners, of whom four are Englishmen, whom I have seen at Soltau last spring. One other English soldier is on its books, but he is living at present on a farm at some distance from Königsmoor, where he does agricultural work. The "moor culture," on which the greater number of prisoners is employed, consists in carting sand, building roads, digging drainage ditches, and making the moor arable. The four Englishmen are, however, employed only in work connected with the camp itself. I talked freely with all of them, and they said that they were as contented here as they would be anywhere. They said that there was no discrimination against them of any kind, and their relations with the German guards were evidently pleasant. They all said that they had plenty of warm clothing, including overcoats, and one even had an overcoat which had been given him by the German authorities in addition to one which he had received from home. They said the food was "not bad," although they counted on parcels from home to help it out. All received mail and parcels regularly. The midday soup (beef and vegetables) seemed good. My visit was not anticipated, as a telegram which I sent twenty-four hours in advance had not been received, having apparently gone to another place of the same name. Other Englishmen had been in this camp during the summer, but had been sent back to Soltau a short time ago.

In the afternoon, on my return to Bremen, I called at the principal military hospital and was told that there were no English prisoners of war in any of the lazarets in that city.

(2.)

Hakenmoor bei Ströhen.

December 16, 1915.

The camp at Hakenmoor is another "working" camp, built in the usual manner to contain 1,000 prisoners of war. It is situated about 5 miles from the village and railway station of Ströhen. The barracks are of wood, heated by stoves, and lighted by lamps. There are the customary accessory buildings, all of which are well arranged and kept in good order. There is a small chapel in which religious services are held. The lazaret is in charge of German and Belgian sanitary soldiers, and is visited by a physician who comes from Ströhen every second day or more frequently if necessary. At the time of my visit only four beds were occupied and there were no English in the building. The kitchen is run by cooks furnished by the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, assisted by prisoners, and three warm meals are served daily. The midday "soup," of which I ate a plate (beef, barley, potatoes, and other vegetables), was excellent. There are carpenter and repair shops and also a library, as well as the usual post and parcel office, and a room where a number of men are occupied in keeping the prisoners' accounts for labour performed by them. The prisoners are compelled to bathe once a week, and adjoining the baths (warm-water douches) there is a room for washing clothes. An orchestra has been organised, of which one Englishman is a member.

On the camp's books at the time of my visit there were 600 men, including about 60 British prisoners of war, of whom seven are employed in the camp itself, one being in the post-office. The remaining six have permanent charge of the latrines, having volunteered for this work, and all six told me that they wished to continue to perform

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it. With these men and about thirty of the others I talked freely when I saw them at work outside the camp or on their return for the midday meal. Some of the men work at a considerable distance from the camp and return to it at night only, their midday meal being sent out to them. There is no work on Saturday afternoons or Sundays. None of the men had any important complaint to make. A few said that they had had colds or attacks of rheumatism, but those who had proved unfit for work, or who had tried to shirk, or had been difficult to control, had been sent back to the parent camp at Soltau, and all those with whom I spoke said that they wish to remain where they are. They said that the food was good, but that they counted on the receipt of parcels from home to vary its monotony. All were provided with overcoats and with sufficient warm clothing, although much of it was of a nondescript character. Several complained that the clothing furnished soon became too tight for comfort, and nearly every man in the camp had put on from ten to thirty (even more) pounds of flesh. None spoke of any bad treatment, although I made particular enquiries, or of any discrimination against them, although one Englishman said that there were occasional differences with the (Belgian) barrack captains. The arrest cells were unoccupied at the time of my visit, and I was told that there had been few cases where punishment had been found necessary. Most of the British prisoners are privates, and none are of higher rank than corporal. All looked in good health and seemed to be contented, and their relations with the German guards appeared to be friendly. The commandant is interested in his work; he knows most of the men by name, and seems to try to do all in his power to add to their comfort, providing "extras" for them whenever possible. The men receive at least 30 pfennigs a day for their work, and more—as a rule—in accordance with the amount accomplished. The work consists in road building, regulating the course of the River Aue (near which there is a sub-camp which I visited, and which accommodates 100 men—no British at the time), and in making the moorland arable by turning the soil and constructing drains and ditches. With the commandant, who is a civil engineer by profession and very much interested in the work from a professional point of view, I walked over several miles of the moor, seeing and talking with various parties of men at work. The work itself is not hard, the men are not forced to exert themselves, and there is absolutely nothing degrading in what they are called upon to do. The men enjoy a great deal of freedom, and their life is evidently a healthy one.

No. 35.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received January 4.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 24th December, transmitting a copy of Mr. Jackson's report on the "Kriegsgefangenenlazaret," Alexandrinenstrasse, in that capital.

American Embassy, London,
January 3, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 35.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 24, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report of a visit made by Mr. Jackson to the "Kriegsgefangenenlazaret," Alexandrinenstrasse, in this city, yesterday afternoon, and to be,

Yours, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 35.

Report on visit to "Kriegsgefangenenlazaret," Alexandrinenstrasse, Berlin.

SEVERAL months ago a special lazaret for prisoners of war was established in the old Dragoon Caserne in the Alexandrinenstrasse, in Berlin. Prisoners of all nationalities are now housed in the Caserne itself, and in four wooden huts which have been built in the barrack yard. The rooms are primitive, but clean and well heated. One large stable has been fitted with a stage for theatrical and musical performances, the room being used ordinarily as a smoking and recreation room. The prisoners who are able to be about are at liberty to visit each other, and to go from room to room freely. The bath room is fitted with tubs, hot and cold water. The latrines are conveniently situated. There is a sentinel at the gate which opens on the street, but otherwise I saw no men under arms within the enclosure.

During the three hours which I spent in the lazaret this afternoon I was unaccompanied by any German, and was allowed to go about among the prisoners and talk with them at will. I talked at length with all the thirty-four English prisoners with the exception of one who was asleep when I visited his ward. One of the Englishmen, a man named Fulton, assists in the care of his comrades, and a Belgian soldier, who speaks English fairly well, serves as their interpreter. While most of the men criticised the food, none had any material complaint to make. In connection with their parcels, which come regularly, all said that they had enough to eat, some saying, however, that the food provided was bad, while others said that it was satisfactory. Some of the men thought that their out-going mail was not sent off promptly, but this was contradicted by the officer in charge when I spoke to him of it before leaving. The Englishmen said that they were satisfied with their general treatment, and that there was no discrimination against them. There were no officer prisoners in the lazaret except two Russians, whom I met while they were taking exercise in the barrack yard, and who told me that conditions were satisfactory. They occupy a room by themselves.

Several of the Englishmen had been wounded and captured early in the war, and had been moved from one hospital to another before coming to Berlin. Most of them had passed through the Döberitz camp. Some had had accidents or had been taken ill while in neighbouring working camps. One man, who his comrades said was a difficult character, said that he thought that working in a cement factory was degrading to a soldier as the work made him dirty, while another man who had been working at the same place said he hoped to be sent back there as soon as he was convalescent, as he liked the work and did not find it hard, and as he did not want to be sent to one of the big camps where there was nothing to do. Several men seemed to me to be unfit for further military service, but I am not prepared to say that they are entitled to be sent home under the existing agreement. One man, Bandsman Robinson, of the Northumberland Fusiliers (who has lost his right eye), thought that he should be repatriated as he was wounded and captured while acting as a non-combatant stretcher-bearer.

A small amount of money was sent from the Embassy for distribution among the British prisoners as a Christmas gift.

December 23, 1915.

No. 36.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 30th December,* has the honour to request that Mr. Page will be so good as to convey to Mr. Gerard the best thanks of His Majesty's Government for the reports on the prisoners' camps at Königsmoor and Hakenmoor, copies of which were enclosed in the note under reference.

Foreign Office, January 5, 1916.

* See No. 34.

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No. 37.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received January 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 28th ultimo, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 1st November,* and enclosing a copy of a report sent to Mr. Jackson from the Prussian Ministry of War respecting certain prisoners at Schneidemühl, who were under arrest awaiting a new trial.

American Embassy, London,
January 7, 1916.

* See No. 2.

Enclosure 1 in No. 37.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 28, 1915.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd ultimo, enclosing a copy of a note from the British Foreign Office, dated the 1st November, and to inform you that the wish on the part of the British Government to ensure the presence of a competent interpreter to assist in the trial of British prisoners of war (at Schneidemühl and elsewhere), was duly communicated to the Imperial Foreign Office at the time.

In this connection, I beg to inform you that soon after Mr. Jackson's visit to the camp at Schneidemühl on the 14th October his report was discussed informally with the Prussian Ministry of War in the customary manner, and I have now to enclose a copy of a report, dated the 27th October, which has just been sent to him from that Ministry, in regard to the case and treatment of the men (William Boddington, Charles Ludlow, Alfred Ward, George Banks, Pazi Gilmo, Philip John Harries, Frederick Folwell, and James Gilmore) who were in arrest awaiting a new trial, with seven of whom Mr. Jackson had spoken. When seen by Mr. Jackson the prisoner Folwell was in the lazaret, in bed, and he was either unable or unwilling to make any reply to remarks which were addressed to him. Subsequently Folwell was sent to the Kuckenmuhle "Nervenanstalt," near Stettin, but judging from a letter which he wrote on the 12th December to Chaplain Williams requesting to be supplied with certain books, it would appear that, to a certain extent at least, his mental condition has improved.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 37.

Inspectorate of the Prisoners' Camps of the IInd Army Corps.

(Translation.)

LEGAL proceedings are pending against the following eight English prisoners of war: William Boddington, Charles Ludlow, Alfred Ward, George Banks, Pazi Gilmo, Philip John Harries, Frederick Folwell, and James Gilmore, on a charge of military revolt. The act was committed on the 4th August, 1915. On the 9th August, 1915, the complaint was laid before the Court. On the same day an order of arrest was made out for contravention of Sections 106, 111, 158, 9, No. 2 M. St. G.B., by application of Sec. 176, No. 1 M. St. G.O. The order of arrest and right of protest were communicated to the accused persons on the 13th August, on which day they were imprisoned pending trial. After the close of the investigations into the case on the 2nd September the charge was formulated. The formulation of the charge and a copy thereof were communicated to all the accused persons on the 7th September. The main proceedings terminated on the 4th October in the camp at Schneidemühl. On this occasion all the accused were present with the exception of Folwell. General-oberarzt (surgeon-general) Dr. Schoenlein, of the camp hospital, who happened to be present as a witness in another case, declared that Folwell was in the hospital and

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could hardly be considered sane. The case was proceeded with against the seven accused who had appeared. They were condemned for mutiny, for the offence of military revolt, and for the offence of disobedience in the presence of the men assembled, committed in the field, where the punishable acts took place, though all those concerned returned to order before any acts of violence had been perpetrated; the sentences were as follows: Boddington and Ward being the ringleaders, Boddington 4 years' imprisonment; Ward two years; Ludlow, Banks, Gilmo, Harries, and Gilmore, one year each.

The condemned persons have laid an appeal. At the present moment applications are being made for the provision of legalised copies of the judgment to them and to the advocate for the defence.

As regards Folwell, the Court on the 21st October asked to be informed by the commandant of the camp as to whether he could appear before the Court for the main proceedings. If the reply were to be in the negative the camp doctor was requested to supply a statement concerning the nature and probable duration of his illness.

The following was established by the doctor:—

Folwell was admitted into the hospital on the 30th September with symptoms of influenza. These symptoms rapidly improved, and disappeared except for a single-day relapse (October 22), his strength and appetite were satisfactory, and the reflexes functioned. His mental state was from an earlier time stupid, disturbed, and melancholy. During the first few days Folwell replied occasionally to questions about his conditions with the word "good," but for the last fourteen days—the certificate is dated the 26th October—he has not spoken a single word, even to the orderlies and attendants. Even when he receives parcels from home he behaves quite indifferently and absent-mindedly. An exact scientific diagnosis of this mental disorder is impossible at the present time, and the question of its duration and the possibilities of recovery are likewise impossible to decide. Folwell is at present not in a fit condition to go up for trial. So far as it is possible to discover Folwell was normal when he was admitted into hospital. His changed behaviour first commenced after he had been ten days in hospital, and was the sequel to a feverish influenza attack.

The eight Englishmen have always kept company together. Three of them are in each of two cells, the seventh is the company of a Russian prisoner of war. They are exercised three times daily for forty minutes in the open air.

Folwell is under observation by a specialist to determine his mental condition.

(Signature.)
Inspector and Major-General.
Deputy General Command of the IInd Army Corps,
Stettin.

Stettin, October 27, 1915.

No. 38.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received January 10.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 31st December, transmitting a copy of Mr. Jackson's report on the Offiziersgefangenenlager Fürstenberg i/Mecklenburg.

American Embassy, London, January 7, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 38.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, December* 31, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report of a visit made by Mr. Jackson to the Offiziersgefangenenlager Fürstenberg i/Mecklenburg yesterday.

I am, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 38.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Fürstenberg i/Mecklenburg.

THE officer prisoner camp, about a mile from the town of Fürstenberg, was opened about six weeks ago. The building (see picture card)* is substantial, on the lines of a summer hotel, and was used formerly as a convalescent home for members of the German "Beamten Verein." It is situated on a hill, in a very healthy position, and is surrounded by pine woods. The building and considerable grounds are enclosed by a double barbed-wire fence, within which I saw no armed guards. The complement of the camp is 200 officer prisoners, and there is space enough in the common rooms to enable all of them to have their meals served at the same time without crowding. These rooms, in one of which there is a piano, may be used by the officers throughout the day for smoking and recreation. The sleeping rooms are of various sizes, accommodating from two to six persons, and are not overcrowded. In the rooms holding six officers the beds are in double tiers, but the total floor space is at least six times that which is covered by the beds. The officers room by nationalities. The baths and latrine arrangements are modern and sufficient. The whole building is in good condition. A room is being arranged for a barber's shop, where a German barber is to be employed.

The prisoners are permitted to smoke freely, and to have beer and wine in moderation. There is a small canteen from which necessary articles can be obtained, and the camp is visited weekly by the representative of a large Berlin "department store." Officers pay 1·50 M. per day for their food, which, I was told, is satisfactory. The kitchen is in charge of Germans, assisted by the officers' servants. There is also an advisory committee made up from the officer prisoners, in which the English element is represented.

Twice daily parties of about forty officers are permitted to take walks in the neighbouring country, accompanied by a few German soldiers not under arms, enabling practically every officer who cares to do so to go out every second day. The prisoners give their written parole not to make an attempt to escape when they leave the camp for one of these walks, and this parole is given back to them on their return.

Ten British officers (whose names have already been sent to London) were brought to this camp from Gütersloh when it was opened, and fifteen more (whose names are appended hereto) were transferred from the same place yesterday. I saw and talked freely, without witnesses, with nearly all of these twenty-five officers when I visited the camp this afternoon, and I heard no complaints of any kind. All had written to their friends, but some of those who had been captured recently had not yet had any reply from home. In the camp there are forty-one prisoners of war on duty as officers' servants, of whom only three are English, which was, however, the proper proportion so long as there were only ten British officers present. A request to have the number of English orderlies increased is now under consideration. The relations between the German officers and the officer prisoners appeared to be good, and the senior English officer told me that he had no hesitation about going to the commandant and making known the wishes of himself and his comrades. There is a German sanitary soldier on duty in the camp, and a doctor comes out from Fürstenberg every morning. The case of one officer (Lieutenant Reid), whose left arm was badly hurt, was recommended to the especial attention of the doctor, as it seemed possible that the use of the arm might be regained if special treatment should be given. The attention of the Foreign Office has been called to the fact that a medical officer is among the British prisoners.

Name.	Rank.	Regiment.
Alcock, John H.	2nd Lieutenant	8th Lincoln Regiment.
Buckley, Sidney Earl	Lieutenant	Northampton Regiment.
Dale, Philip F...	Lieutenant	11th Essex Regiment.
Fenwick, Basil A.	Captain	9th East Surrey Regiment.
Harman, Charles E.	Lieutenant	13th Batt. Middlesex.
Hazell, Alfred M.	Lieutenant	Welsh Regiment, 1st Batt., R. Comp. D.
Laird, David Dr.	Captain	R.A.M.C., The 2nd Yorkshire Regiment.

* Not reproduced.

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Name.	Rank.	Regiment.
Leeson, David	Lieutenant	Royal Flying Corps (7th Canadians).
Middleton, Basil L.	2nd Lieutenant	11th Essex Regiment.
Old, Rowland	1st Lieutenant	8th West Kent Regiment.
Parr, Frederic S.	Captain	Leicestershire Regiment, A.K., 4th Batt.
Pitbladen, Charles B.	Lieutenant	Canadian Batt. (5th Royal Highlanders).
Reid, William	2nd Lieutenant	Royal Flying Corps.
Slade, Reginald J.	2nd Lieutenant	Royal Flying Corps.
Tomlinson, Francis Wentworth ..	Captain	2nd The Buffs, Comp. B.G.G.

December 30, 1915.

No. 39.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 3rd instant,* transmitting copy of a report by Mr. Jackson in regard to the conditions at the "Kriegsgefangenenlazarett," in Berlin, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if thanks can be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, and to Mr. Jackson, for this interesting report, together with an expression of the hope of His Majesty's Government that Mr. Gerard will be good enough to bear in mind the cases of the men who appeared to Mr Jackson to be unfit for military service—more especially that of Bandsman Robinson—with a view to their repatriation in the event of its being ascertained that their condition is such as to bring them within the terms of the schedule of incapacity.

Foreign Office, January 8, 1916.

* See No. 35.

No. 40.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received January* 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 30th of December, referring to the report on the camp at Crefeld, transmitted to Sir Edward Grey on the 3rd of November,† and stating that the English officers have been given permission to room together.

American Embassy, London,
January 8, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 40.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
December 30, 1915.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Jackson's report of a visit to the officer prisoners' camp at Crefeld on the 21st October, I have the honour to inform you that the Embassy has now been advised by the Commandant of that camp that permission was given to the English officers to room together several weeks ago. Letters from General Bruce in regard to the clothing requirements of the British soldiers on duty at Crefeld as officers' servants have already been forwarded to London for such action as may be found appropriate.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

† See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 45.

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No. 41.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received January* 11.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 31st December, transmitting copies of reports made by Dr. Ohnesorg of visits to several prisoners of war camps in Germany.

American Embassy, London,
January 10, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 41.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
Sir, *December* 31, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith, for transmission to the British Government, a copy of a report dated the 20th instant, which was made to me by Dr. Ohnesorg, Surgeon, United States Navy, of visits made by him to several prisoner of war camps about a fortnight ago.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 41.

Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *Berlin, December* 20, 1915.

I HAVE the honour to report the inspections of the following prisoner of war camps for officers and men. As all of the camps, with the exception of Cassel (Niederzwehren), had been previously visited by me and reported upon, I shall not describe them in detail :—

December 15, *Friedberg* (*Hassen*).—Mr. Osborne and I found here those officers who were interned on my previous visit. Their number had been augmented by three, who had been transferred from Mainz last July: Lieutenant W. H. Braddel, Lieutenant W. Clark, and Captain G. P. Wymer. The latter was in confinement in the garrison "Arrestanstalt" in the town, serving a court-martial sentence of six weeks. He had criticised the Germans in a letter, calling them pirates, had been tried by a military court and sentenced to six weeks' confinement in prison. We did not visit him. His brother officers in the camp informed me that he was in good physical condition and was given an opportunity for daily exercise in the open air. His meals were brought to him from the camp by an English orderly. One of the British interned officers, Major Morrison Bell, told me of the cases of six British enlisted men who had recently been tried before a court-martial convened at Friedberg. The charge was refusal to work, and some of the men had been sentenced to a term of imprisonment lasting two years. Major Bell, with another of the British officers, had been present at the trial. He had written a report of the proceedings, and had asked the Commandant to forward it to the Embassy, but this was denied. I asked if I might have it, but the Commandant refused; he said I might read it. Although the men had counsel furnished them, Major Bell seemed to think that their defence could have been better managed and that the sentence was entirely too severe; they had all appealed.

All of the British officers were well save Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell Earle, who was still suffering from the after effects of a gunshot wound of the head and left leg. The Commandant promised me that he would be taken to Frankfort for an examination by an eye and ear specialist.

Mainz.—The officer prisoner of war camp at Mainz was visited in the afternoon of the 16th December. There are here interned about 67 English officers. I requested a list of them, but the Commandant informed me he could not give me one without the permission of the Inspection at Frankfort.

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Some time ago pink slips of paper, copies of which we saw, were inserted in the home-going letters of the officers, they read about as follows: "Letters are more likely to pass the censor if they are short and legibly written. The families and friends of officers are informed that prisoners of war are not supposed to receive more letters than they are permitted to write." All the officers justly protested against this. On bringing this to the attention of the Commandant, he at first disclaimed all knowledge of it, but later admitted that some such order had been done by the Postprufungsstelle, but that it had later been stopped. He asserted that the statement on the slips was in accordance with the rules governing correspondence which he had received.

A Sikh officer had been interned at the camp for the last three weeks. He was quartered alone and isolated from the rest of the interned officers. He was permitted to leave his room for exercise at stated hours, but not permitted any intercourse with the interned officers. The Commandant, when questioned as to the reason of this, said that no interpreter could speak to him, although several of the British officers spoke Hindustani. It was not entirely clear why he was quartered alone and permitted no intercourse with the rest of the officers.

In the Garnison Lazaret in the city, three British officers were under treatment; they shared a large room with four wounded French officers; their quarters were in a wing of the hospital separated from the remainder of the building, the entrance to the floor being guarded by a German soldier.

In both Friedberg and Mainz there are not enough orderlies detailed at the camps to satisfactorily perform the duties assigned them. The War Ministry has established a regulation that the ratio shall be one man for every five officer prisoners. This would be sufficient provided the duties of the orderlies were only those of caring for the rooms, clothing, &c., of the officers; they, however, are detailed in the kitchens, latrines, bringing parcels, &c., from the post-office, and other duties, and I should suggest that this be brought to the attention of the Kriegsministerium and an effort made to increase the complement in each camp.

The afternoon of the 17th I visited the men's camp at Niederzwehren, a suburb of Cassel. This camp is one of the first established in Germany, and is not so well arranged as the newer ones. The prisoners of war are well housed and the sanitary conditions at present are very good. Last winter and spring an epidemic of fleck-typhus proved a severe problem to cope with, and cost many lives among the interned, as well as the Germans. Fourteen out of a complement of 100 British prisoners died.

The camp was built to accommodate 20,000, and during the epidemic the interned numbered 18,000. At the time of my visit there were 290 British prisoners of war attached to the camp, of whom 180 were quartered in working camps. Six were in the camp hospital. I saw all those in the camp; they were clothed well, not all, however, in uniform, and had overcoats, save three, who had only arrived in camp the previous night from working camps, having been previously interned at Göttingen. All the British were quartered together, sharing a large room in one of the huge barracks with French prisoners of war. Two of them complained to me of having been unjustly tried by court-martial. I read the specifications and report of the trial. Both were accused of refusing to work, and were found guilty and sentenced to several months' confinement.

On the morning of the 18th December I visited the prisoner of war camp at Langensalza and found that the ninety-one British prisoners had been removed to Göttingen two months ago.

May I suggest that footballs, boxing-gloves, &c., would be welcome to the prisoners in the different camps, and that also mittens or thick warm gloves would be acceptable, and a needed gift to those who are employed at work in the open.

I have, &c.

KARL OHNESORG, *Surgeon*,
United States Navy, Assistant Naval Attaché.

No. 42.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received January* 15.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy

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of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 10th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's notes of the 15th and 22nd December respecting the imprisonment of certain British prisoners of war in Germany.

American Embassy, London,
January 14, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 42.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

THE American Embassy in Berlin presents its compliments to the American Embassy at London and, with reference to the latter's communications dated the 17th and 23rd December enclosing copies of notes from the British Foreign Office of the 16th and 22nd, has the honour to state that it has been informed by the general inspector of prisoner camps at Münster that all the Englishmen who had been in the prison at Recklinghausen were removed to the "Festungsgefängnis" at Cologne on the 15th ultimo. Private Jennings has been sentenced to imprisonment until the 14th December, 1916, and Gunner Watts until the 29th June, 1916. Further information in regard to this case has been promised.

In the meantime the embassy begs to state that it understands that as a general rule prisoners of war who have been sentenced to imprisonment are treated like German soldiers under similar conditions, and that the latter are not permitted to receive parcels, &c., but must live on the food furnished to them by the authorities. Nothing is known as yet, however, as to the exact manner in which the English soldiers in question are being treated.

American Embassy, Berlin,
January 10, 1916.

No. 43.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received January 15.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 7th instant, transmitting a copy of a report of visits made by Mr. Jackson to the Kriegsgefangenenlager at Soltau, and to the Offiziersgefangenenlager at Gütersloh.

American Embassy, London, January 14, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 43.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, January* 7, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits made by Mr. Jackson to the Kriegsgefangenenlager at Soltau on the 5th instant, and to the Offiziersgefangenenlager at Gütersloh on the 6th instant, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 43.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Soltau.

SINCE my visit to this camp on the 12th April, 1915, there has been no material change in its general arrangements, the roads between the different barracks have been improved, and a bathing and a disinfection plant has been erected. The general health of the camp continues good. More than 70,000 men have been disinfected, and

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when a few cases of fleck-typhus were introduced into the camp by Russian prisoners captured at Brest-Litovsk, the disease was soon stamped out without its being communicated to any of the other prisoners. The camp still has accommodation for 30,000 prisoners, but there are at present about 48,000 on its books, by far the greater proportion living outside at numerous working camps, two of which, Königsmoor and Hackenmoor, I visited a few weeks ago. 819 British prisoners of war, in groups numbering from 1 (at an ironworks in Lüneburg) to 411 (at the Gräfteniederung, Bohmte), are employed outside the camp, at places where, as I was told, none of the work is connected with the manufacture of ammunition or the operations of the war. The camp is divided into two parts, in one of which there are 189 British prisoners (including one civilian, who said at first that he was a Belgian, and whose British nationality has not yet been established), most of whom (162) occupy one barrack, where they are under the control of their own non-commissioned officer. Under the circumstances there is less friction than heretofore, although the predominating influence in the camp remains Belgian, with its theatre and "university." The English are now represented in the post office, they had theatrical performances on Christmas and New Year's Day, they have cinematograph performances for their benefit twice a week, and they now have their own footballs. The remaining twenty-seven British prisoners in part I of the camp are employed on special work (electric-light plant, post, &c.), and are housed with other prisoners having similar employment. Most of the men in part I were already at Soltau when I visited the camp last April. In part II there are at present 283 more British prisoners, most of whom have been in the camp for a short time only, having been transferred from Friedrichsfeld b/Wesel, Münster, Scheuen (Celle), and Sennelager, including a number of men who had refused to work at ammunition factories with parties from the first-named camp. During my visit to both parts of the camp I was accompanied by a representative of the commandant (who spoke no English, and who kept himself aloof when I talked to the prisoners), by the senior British sergeant-major (Saxton), and by another British non-commissioned officer (Sergeant Tomlinson), who speaks German, and acts as interpreter for his comrades. The senior British non-commissioned officer is permitted to go freely from one part of the camp to the other, and the other prisoners may do so on request, free intercourse between the two parts being limited, owing to the necessity of some control over the large number of prisoners who cannot be known individually to the German guards. At least 100 men were given permission to go from part II to part I to participate in or to watch a football game this afternoon. I talked freely with all the British prisoners who wished to say anything to me, and none had any material complaint to make. I tasted the midday meal, and heard no complaint as to the character of the food, although here as elsewhere the British prisoners depend, for variety at least, to a great extent on the receipt of parcels from home. The canteen is well supplied, and alcohol-free beer and punch are on sale. Most of the men were wearing their own uniforms, and none complained of insufficient clothing. So far as I was able to ascertain there was only one British prisoner (a man who had come from Friedrichsfeld a few days ago) who was without an overcoat. Some of the recently arrived men said that they had been detailed to go to working camps, although they were not able (owing to crippled limbs) to perform physical labour, but Sergeant-Major Saxton said that this was due to the fact that their own non-commissioned officer had not followed his instructions to send him a list of those who were unfit for outside work, and the lager commandant said that he would have these cases examined by the camp surgeon before any of the men left the camp. One group of men in part I still work permanently, but voluntarily, in charge of the latrines. Few of the British prisoners in this camp have been punished, and there were none under arrest to-day. There were only thirteen British in the lazaret (three of whom were in the tuberculosis ward), with all of whom I talked, and none had any complaint to make with regard to his treatment. The Rev. Mr. Williams, from Berlin, has held religious services in this camp on at least two occasions, and a German military chaplain (of whom the men spoke in complimentary terms) holds services in English more or less frequently. This chaplain told me that he also visits the men in the several working camps regularly.

January 5, 1916.

At Soltau I learned that there are no longer any British prisoners of war in the camp at Münsterlager (compare report of my visit to that camp on the 12th April, 1915).

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Enclosure 3 in No. 43.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Gütersloh.

CONDITIONS in this camp have improved materially since I visited it on the 19th April, 1915, and I was told by the British officers that practically all of their wishes, as made known by me to the commandant at that time, had been met promptly. About two months ago, soon after I had called attention to the matter at Münster (as mentioned in my report of my visit to the officers' camp at Crefeld,* dated the 21st October, 1915), the British officers were moved into one building, where all of them now room together, with the exception of Lieutenant-Colonel Baird-Smith and Major McGregor, who share a good-sized, two-windowed room in the second storey, front of the principal building, of which a picture is enclosed. One room on the ground floor of the English building (in which there are also a few Russian officers) is reserved as a sitting-room, where there is a ping-pong table, which was in use at the time of my visit. The bedrooms do not seem overcrowded. One end of the principal building, with separate entrance and staircase, is used as a lazaret, in which I found one English officer with a temporary complaint and two British soldiers (officers' servants), both of whom were in the tuberculosis ward. Another English officer, who was wounded in the throat, is permitted to sleep in the lazaret, but spends the day with his comrades. All officer prisoners move about the large enclosure freely. In the lazaret an English private, who had been trained for such service in India, does duty as a hospital orderly, and an English artillery officer, who is a surgeon by profession, assists in the care of the sick. In the large enclosure containing the several buildings forming this camp there are football and hockey grounds, and at least two lawn tennis courts. There are about 1,050 officer prisoners in the camp, of whom eighty-eight are British, with about forty British soldiers on duty as officers' servants. A new mess-hall has been built, which accommodates the officers present in two sittings. Since the 1st December the mess arrangements are controlled by an officers' committee, under German supervision, on which each nationality (British, Belgian, French, and Russian) has one vote, in spite of the fact that the majority of the prisoners are Russian. The charge for food is 1·50 M. per day, but it is probable that this charge will be reduced as the mess surplus is increasing. Beer and light wines may be purchased with practical freedom. I spent nearly four hours in the camp, being alone with the British officers, with whom I took lunch, the greater part of the time. The general spirit of the camp continues good, and the relations between the prisoners and the commandant, who treats them like gentlemen, appear to be entirely satisfactory. When I visited Fürstenberg on the 30th ultimo I had been surprised to find that the British officers who had recently come to that camp were men who had been in Gütersloh only a relatively short time, but the reason for this is obvious after my visit to the latter camp to-day. The men who have become accustomed to life at Gütersloh do not care to be sent elsewhere. There had been a celebration of Christmas and New Year's Day, and the Russians were preparing to celebrate their Christmas eve to-night.

January 6, 1916.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 45.

No. 44.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 7th instant respecting the trial of certain British prisoners of war at Schneidemühl.†

Sir E. Grey would be glad to learn whether the sentences passed were confirmed on appeal. In the absence of any evidence it is impossible to form an opinion of the nature of the offences committed, but if there was merely disobedience to justifiable orders without violence the sentences appear severe.

Sir E. Grey would be grateful if Mr. Page would ascertain what the orders were which were disobeyed.

Foreign Office, January 15, 1916.

† See No. 37.

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No. 45.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 10th instant,* enclosing copy of a letter from the United States Ambassador at Berlin, covering a report by Dr. Ohnesorg on certain camps of prisoners of war in Germany, has the honour to request that Mr. Page will be so good as to express to Mr. Gerard, and through him to Dr. Ohnesorg, the sincere thanks of His Majesty's Government both for the report and his representations to the German Government based on it by Mr. Gerard.

Foreign Office, January 15, 1916.

* See No. 41.

No. 46.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received January 18.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 11th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 16th December last† and reporting upon a visit made to the detention camp for British prisoners of war at Dyrötz.

American Embassy, London,
January 17, 1916.

† See No. 31.

Enclosure in No. 46.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
January 11, 1916.

Sir,

WITH reference to a note from your Embassy of the 17th December, 1915, enclosing copies of a note from the British Foreign Office under date of the 16th December, 1915, requesting that I cause the detention camp for British prisoners of war at Dyrötz to be investigated in the near future, I have the honour to inform you that I personally visited this camp, accompanied by two members of my staff, on Sunday, the 9th January, 1916, spoke with various of the British N.C.O.'s and men interned there, out of earshot of any of the Germans in charge, and also inspected the conditions existing in the camp.

The men are housed in newly-erected barracks, in which there is a large centre space arranged for tables and chairs; along each side of the rooms are double tiers of platforms, on which the men have their sleeping mattresses. I was informed that the roofs of one or two of the barracks containing English prisoners had leaks in them, and upon investigation I found this to be the case. The Commandant promised that the necessary repairs should be made.

On visiting the kitchen, I saw the noon meal being prepared, consisting of soup containing vegetables and also a considerable quantity of meat, in pieces two or three inches square.

The appearance of the men was excellent, and they informed me that all the English in the camp were supplied with overcoats and a sufficiency of other clothing. Their only wish, in the matter of clothing, was that the men who worked in the rain during the daytime might be furnished with a dry change in the evening. I took up this matter with the Commandant also, who stated that arrangements were already under way to furnish the extra clothing necessary from the supplies on hand at the camp.

The two other chief needs of the camp are some sort of a central hall to be used for theatrical purposes, religious services, and as a general meeting-place, and the erection of enclosed sheds round the troughs used for washing clothes. There was a large supply of timber just outside the camp, which, I was informed, was intended for

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the latter purpose ; I was further told that the work would begin shortly. As regards the hall for recreation and religious purposes, I suggested to the Commandant that I would furnish a part of the costs for its erection from the British military funds at present held at the Embassy ; he expressed himself as satisfied with this arrangement and agreed that the men might be allowed to put up such a building as proposed.

On the whole the men informed me that the treatment was good and that they had no complaints. The general atmosphere in the camp certainly seemed excellent, both on the part of the men and on the part of the authorities. I have mentioned the only points which appeared to need attention, and I believe that the necessary changes in regard to these will follow shortly.

I venture to add that, while the camp at Dyrötz is built to contain 3,000 prisoners of war, it now contains but 2,000. Of these, 631 are British, 967 Russians, 531 French ; in addition to these, however, there are 1,200 other prisoners belonging to the camp at work in the neighbourhood, of which 67 are British.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 47

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 7th instant* enclosing a report by Mr. Jackson, of the United States Embassy at Berlin, on the camp of officer prisoners of war at Fürstenberg in Mecklenburg, has the honour to request that the best thanks of His Majesty's Government for this report may be conveyed to Mr. Gerard, and through his Excellency to Mr. Jackson.

Foreign Office, January 18, 1916.

* See No. 38.

No. 48.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 14th instant,† respecting the transfer of the British prisoners of war who were in prison at Recklinghausen to the "Festungsgefängnis" at Cologne, has the honour to state that he would be much obliged if the United States Ambassador at Berlin would be good enough to request the German Government to furnish a list of the British prisoners of war now in prison at Cologne, together with details of the offences for which they have been punished, for which, as Mr. Page is aware, he had the honour to ask in his note of the 22nd ultimo.

Sir E. Grey would also be glad to learn how the prisoners of war in question are being treated.

Foreign Office, January 20, 1916.

† See No. 42.

No. 49.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 14th instant enclosing reports by Mr. Jackson, of the United States Embassy at Berlin, on the camps at Soltau and Gütersloh.‡

Sir E. Grey will be much obliged if the United States Ambassador at Berlin will convey to Mr. Jackson his thanks for his reports.

He learns with satisfaction of the improvement in the conditions obtaining at Gütersloh, but with great concern that the British prisoners at Friedrichsfeld bei Wesel have been called upon to work at ammunition factories.

Sir E. Grey has addressed to Mr. Page a separate note in regard to this latter point.

Foreign Office, January 20, 1916.

‡ See No. 43.

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No. 50.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received January* 24.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 18th instant, being a report made by Mr. Gerard on his visit to the prisoners of war camp at Ingolstadt in Bavaria.

American Embassy, London,
January 21, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 50.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, January* 18, 1916.

I VISITED Ingolstadt, in Bavaria, on the 15th January. There are about 4,000 prisoners of war in the camp on the Exercier-Platz, in the outskirts of the city. Here are eleven British. The food is about the same as that often described. The mid-day meal on the day of my visit consisted of tripe and potatoes. The cooking is done by Frenchmen. The British all have sufficient clothes and two blankets each. Baths are allowed (hot and cold shower) practically whenever desired, and the men are allowed to get hot water for washing clothes from the bath house or kitchen. The British prisoners had no particular complaints. The barrack where they sleep is rather crowded, the double-deck system being in use. The barrack floors are dirt only, or rather mud with a board strip. The commandant promised to see that the roofs, which leaked in places, were repaired. The British prisoners work on the railway, &c., and also in the large military hospital. They stated they preferred work of this kind to doing nothing. The British are allowed to play football; there is a camp library and a theatre where weekly performances are given. The relations between the camp officers and prisoners seem excellent. There is a well-furnished canteen, where reasonable prices are charged.

The men receive letters and parcels promptly, but are charged 5 pfennigs for each parcel. This charge is made, the commandant told me, to create a fund for the prisoners who receive neither gifts nor money. As several of the British said they had no money, I am sending a small sum from the British fund to the commandant, so that each man may have a small credit at the canteen and for his parcel tax.

Ingolstadt is surrounded by ring forts or earthworks, and I visited one, Fort No. 9. Here I found four British officers, Lieutenant Alsop, London Scottish, Captain Wilson and Lieutenant Scholefield, Royal Flying Corps, and Lieutenant Kemble, Suffolk Regiment. On the day of my arrival these officers were making a petition in which they requested that they should not be transferred to another prison. They had no complaints to make. There are 285 officers in all here. Seven or eight sleep in a room or casement. These rooms are heated by stoves. I did not examine all the accommodations, as this fort has been reported on by Mr. Jackson, and as the officers made no complaints.

The officers are allowed to walk on the ramparts and in a large court. They have sleds and slide down the ramparts, and may play football in the courtyard. The commandant had been in charge only about six weeks. The relations between commandant and prisoners are excellent. There is a well-furnished canteen, and anything may be ordered, even from Berlin or Munich.

Captain Wilson is suffering from shock, having fallen in an aeroplane from a great height.

The French officers have organised a theatre and orchestra, and lately the first act of "Faust" was given, Marguerite being sung by an officer prisoner.

Owing to difficulty in finding a conveyance, my time was limited, and on the train to Munich I met the general commander, who told me two more English prisoners were in Fort 8 and two in the hospital. He said that the two in hospital were doing well.

In Munich I conferred with Archdeacon Nies, of the American Protestant Episcopal Churches in Europe. He has permission to visit the prison camps in

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Bavaria and hold religious services in English for the British prisoners. I am sending him a small sum from the British fund for emergencies. The Archdeacon is doing splendid work.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 51.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 17th instant,* enclosing a report by the United States Ambassador at Berlin on the prisoners camp at Dyrotz.

Sir E. Grey is much obliged to Mr. Gerard for personally visiting this camp.

Foreign Office, January 24, 1916.

* See No. 46.

No. 52.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 23rd November last† respecting the treatment of British prisoners of war at the camp at Stendal, Germany, has the honour to state that his attention has again been drawn to the delay which arises in the transmission of letters from prisoners of war interned at that camp. Many letters written on the 1st November last did not reach London until the end of December. For example, Corporal Street, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and Sergeant W. Rayment, both wrote letters on the 1st November which only reached London on the 29th December and the 30th December respectively.

Sir E. Grey would be greatly obliged if the United States Ambassador at Berlin could be requested to investigate this matter.

He would also be grateful if Mr. Gerard's attention could be called to Sir E. Grey's note of the 29th November last,‡ relative to the conditions at Stendal camp, to which a reply has not yet been received.

Foreign Office, January 26, 1916.

† See No. 15.

‡ See No. 18.

No. 53.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of his Excellency's note of the 21st instant,§ covering copy of a report by the United States Ambassador in Berlin on a visit to the prisoners of war camp at Ingolstadt.

In desiring Mr. Page to be so good as to convey to Mr. Gerard the expression of his best thanks for his Excellency's visit and report, Sir E. Grey notes with satisfaction that the conditions prevailing at the camp appear to be good, save for the mud floors in the huts and the leaky roofs, to which he observes that his Excellency called attention.

The Secretary of State would be grateful if his sincere thanks might also be conveyed to Archdeacon Nies for his valuable work in ministering to the spiritual needs of the British prisoners of war.

Foreign Office, January 28, 1916.

§ See No. 50.

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No. 54.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received January* 31.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 24th instant, respecting an order issued by the Prussian Ministry of War by which British civilian prisoners at Ruhleben are permitted to receive visitors.

American Embassy, London,
January 29, 1916.

Enclosure in No. 54.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, January* 24, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that this Embassy has been advised by the Prussian Ministry of War that, in accordance with an order issued on the 24th ultimo, the British civilians interned at Ruhleben are permitted to receive visits from their mothers or wives once every four weeks in a room especially arranged for the purpose, the duration of each visit being limited to two hours.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

No. 55.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received February* 1.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 24th instant, transmitting copies of reports of visits made to prisoners' camps at Güstrow, Döberitz (Radelager), Blankenburg, Neisse, and Gnadenfrei.

American Embassy, London,
January 31, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 55.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, January* 24, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits made by Mr. Jackson to the men's camps at Güstrow and Döberitz (Radelager), and the officers' camp at Blankenburg, and by Dr. Ohnesorg to the officers' camps at Neisse and Gnadenfrei, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 55.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Güstrow i/Mecklenburg

SINCE my visit to Güstrow on the 10th April, 1915, no great change has taken place in the camp itself. A new bakery has been built, and the roads between the barracks have been improved, but otherwise the buildings remain about as they were. The barracks are solidly built with wooden floors, and they are warm and dry. The camp will accommodate about 26,000 prisoners of war, but on its books there are some 51,000 (including about 3,000 British), most of whom are now at branch working camps.

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In the camp to-day there were only about 6,000 prisoners, including about 200 British. Most of the men at working camps (of which there are more than 50 of various sizes) have been employed in agriculture, but since winter begun those who have a trade have been brought back and sent to industrial establishments of various kinds. None of the prisoners from Güstrow work in mines.

In the camp itself all the British prisoners, except a few who belong to special groups, live together, and their details to fatigue work (of which the English are not called upon to do more than their fair share) are made up by their own non-commissioned officers, who exercise general control over them, there being very few German soldiers stationed within the enclosure. Sergeant-Major Sweeney, the senior British non-commissioned officer, and two other sergeants belonging to his regiment share a good-sized room, with three other non-commissioned officers in a building which is used for the distribution of "Liebesgaben." Clothing sent for men who had left the camp proper is sent out under their direction. Generally the men were well clothed, although all were not in uniform. A few were without overcoats (men who had come to the camp recently, and who are to have them in a few days), but all said that they had sufficient warm clothing. Since the 1st January the work in the kitchens has been turned over to the prisoners, and two British sergeants have charge of the kitchens, from which their fellow countrymen get their food. I tasted the midday meal (a thick vegetable soup with pieces of salt beef in it) in this and in another kitchen, and found it good. The men told me that while they depend on their home parcels for variety, a man who received nothing (as is the case with many of the Russian prisoners) could live on the food supplied, although in that case he would always be glad when meal time came. Generally the men seemed in good condition, and were in good spirits Sergeant-Major Sweeney told me that he had no hesitation about making the men's wishes known to the German authorities, and no difficulty in getting them heard. The relations between the prisoners and the authorities seemed good. The prisoners have a theatre, and have organised an orchestra, and there is an English circulating library. About a dozen men belonging to the London Scottish work in the post-office.

In different wards of the camp hospital there were fourteen Englishmen, most of whom had colds or were suffering from rheumatism. A few were still suffering from wounds, and one or two of them seemed to me to be unfit for further active service. On speaking of this to the commandant he said that he would have their cases looked into particularly, to see if they are entitled to be sent home. A number of severely wounded have been repatriated already. There are no English sanitary soldiers in the camp, but a Sergeant Williams, who speaks German, does duty in the hospital in connection with the care of his compatriots, and he told me that he had no difficulty in bringing deserving cases to the attention of the German medical officers. In one of the wards some of the men spoke of being disturbed at night by noise made by a crazy man (a Russian), and the commandant arranged at once to have all the men who are affected mentally (none of the English) put in a ward by themselves. With all those in the hospital, with the non-commissioned officers mentioned, and others, and with all the other men who wished to say anything to me, I talked freely and out of hearing of any German, and none of them had any material complaint to make.

Chaplain Williams from Berlin has visited the camp on several occasions, and religious services arranged by the English themselves are held regularly on Sundays.

January 20, 1916.

Enclosure 3 in No. 55.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Döberitz (Radelager).

SUPPER had been served just before my arrival in the camp, so I went to the kitchen at once and tasted the evening soup, which consisted of a thick vegetable broth, prepared for the Russians with fish in it ("fleischloser Tag"), and for the English and French without. The soup tasted good, but although I had had no luncheon, I was satisfied before I had finished a plate. I was told by some of the Englishmen who work in the kitchen that a number of their countrymen live entirely on what is sent from home (as they do not relish the food provided by the authorities), and that opportunity is given them to heat or cook it as necessary.

The men with whom I talked told me that, so far as they were aware, everyone is provided with warm clothing, including overcoats. There are now only three tents in the camp, all the prisoners being housed in wooden barracks. One of the tents is used

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as a church for the Russians, another is used as a theatre, and the third is reserved as a temporary shelter whenever a number of prisoners are sent to the camp unexpectedly *en route* to permanent quarters. The new reading room (known as the "Y.M.C.") has been opened, and the circulating library has been installed in it. The building was in use, warmed and lighted by electricity, and with its chairs and tables, and curtains at the windows, it made a pleasant appearance. In the evening, in company with the commandant and other German officers, by invitation of the British prisoners of war, I attended their minstrel performance (copy of programme enclosed) in the theatre, and listened to the English orchestra. Besides the English, there are French and Russian orchestras in the camp. In the arch over the stage a "Union Jack" is painted.

January 21, 1916.

Enclosure 4 in No. 55.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Blankenburg.

IN this camp conditions continue as satisfactory as they were found to be on former occasions, no material change having taken place. My visit to-day was for the purpose of informing Colonel Gordon of the arrangements made for his repatriation, which is to take place to-morrow. I talked with him and with the other British officers, who were the same as on my last visit, with the exception of Captain Coulston, who has been transferred to a lazaret in Spandau. The commandant has now adopted the practice of taking different officer prisoners of war with him for occasional walks in the neighbouring country. Individual lockers have been put up for the use of the soldier prisoners who are acting as officers' servants.

January 22, 1916.

Enclosure 5 in No. 55.

Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *January* 22, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 19th January, 1916, I visited the officer prisoners of war camps at Neisse and Gnadenfrei.

There are eight British officers confined in each of these camps, the same as were reported on my visit in August last. One British enlisted man was found in each place acting as an orderly for the officers.

At both of the camps I was conducted to the quarters of the British officers, and left alone with them. I walked about the camp in company with the interned officers, and without being accompanied by any German officer. I mention this fact as it is the first time in visiting prisoner of war camps that I have been granted this privilege.

Neisse.—I have described this camp in a previous report.* Since my previous visit the commandant and his assistants have been changed. The new commandant, Hauptmann Dinter, was well spoken of by the interned, and appears to be doing the best within his power for his charges. The eight British officers occupied the same as previously, one large room, and were not crowded. There are at present about 800 officers interned here, the greater per cent. being Russian. Over 100 enlisted men are also interned here acting as orderlies, so that the total interned is 900. They have a very limited space for exercise, entirely too small for the number of interned. The old riding hall mentioned in a previous report had been condemned as an exercise hall. The buildings without the compound are so arranged that an enlargement of the present area is impossible. Until two months ago the officers, a company at a time, were taken out under guard for a two-hour walk through the surrounding country. This privilege was discontinued by order of the General Inspection in Breslau. All of the officers spoke of this, and desired that the walks be renewed. Considering the very limited space for exercise within the compounds, the authorities should permit these bi-weekly excursions.

Gnadenfrei.—At present 335 officers and 70 enlisted men are interned here. In my previous report I called attention to the quartering of the German guard in the same building with the interned, which resulted in overcrowding. I found on this

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 25.

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visit that the guard was quartered in the building, but had been segregated to one wing on the first floor. The officer prisoners were not permitted in this part of the building. Overcrowding still exists. The British officers occupy one room, about 21 feet by 22 feet by 23 feet. Entirely too small; this is the case throughout the whole building. The rooms are, however, well lighted and ventilated, and the building well heated—a hot-water system being used. The orderlies with the exception of six are quartered in two rooms in the attic. They are overcrowded, and the only method of ventilation and natural lighting is a small skylight; this, of course, has to be closed when it rains. Many of the officers are studying French and Russian, and desired French–English and Russian–English dictionaries and books of study in these languages. They informed me that they were not permitted to have them. Only books of study in the German language and German dictionaries were allowed them.

A small building in the courtyard—a Turnhalle gymnasium—had been permanently closed since the middle of December because of the escape of some Russian officers through the windows. It was done on an order from the General Inspection in Breslau. Walks in the surrounding country had also been discontinued as at Neisse.

I have, &c.

KARL OHNESORG, *Surgeon U.S. Navy,*
Assistant Naval Attaché.

No. 56.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received February 7.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 1st instant, transmitting a new list of the places in Germany in which British prisoners of war are interned.

American Embassy, London, February 4, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 56.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, February* 1, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a new list of the places in Germany in which British prisoners of war (officers and men) are interned, which has just been sent to the Embassy by the Prussian Ministry of War. Dependent upon nearly every one of the principal camps for men are numbers of work camps ("Arbeitslager" or "Arbeitsstellen") which are continually changing, and which can only be ascertained from the authorities of the principal camps.

I have, &c.

JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 56.

List of Camps and Hospitals where British Prisoners of War are Interned.

(*a.*) *Camps for Rank and File.*

Guards—
Döberitz.
Ruhleben (civil prisoners).
Zossen.
2nd Army Corps—
Altdamm.
Schneidemühl.
3rd Army Corps—
Cottbus.
Guben.
4th Army Corps—
Altengrabow.
Gardelegen.
Merseburg.
Quedlinburg.
Stendal.
Wittenberg (Bez. Halle).
Zerbet.
5th Army Corps.
Görditz.
Sagan.
Sprottau.
6th Army Corps—
Neuhammer (Queis).
7th Army Corps—
Dülmen.
Friedrichsfelde (bei Wesel).
Minden I
Münster I.
Münster II.
Münster III.
Senne I.
Senne II.
Senne III.
8th Army Corps—
Wahn.
9th Army Corps—
Güstrow.
Parchim.
10th Army Corps—
Hameln.
Scheuen-Celle
Soltau.
11th Army Corps—
Cassel-Niederzwehren
Erfurt.
Göttingen.
Ohrdruf.
14th Army Corps—
Mannheim.
18th Army Corps—
Darmstadt.
Giessen.
Limburg a/L.
Bayern—
Ebenberg-Landau.
Hammelburg.
Nürnberg.
Sachsen—
Königsbruck.
Württemberg—
Stuttgart II.

(*b.*) *Officers' Camp.*

2nd Army Corps—
Stralsund.
3rd Army Corps—
Blankenburg (Mark).
4th Army Corps—
Burg bei Magdeburg.
Halle.
Magdeburg.
Torgau.
6th Army Corps—
Gnadenfrei i. Schlesien
Neisse.
7th Army Corps—
Crefeld.
Gütersloh.
Werl.
9th Army Corps—
Augustabad-Neubrandenburg i. M.
Fürstenberg i. M.
10th Army Corps—
Clausthal.
Osnabrück.
Wahmbeck.
Wildemann.
11th Army Corps—
Bad Colberg.
Hannov. Münden.
14th Army Corps—
Heidelberg.
Villingen.
18th Army Corps—
Friedberg.
Mainz.
Bayern—
Rosenberg (Veste) bei Kronach.
Sachsen—
Bischofswerda.

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(c.) *Lazarette.*

Guards Corps—
Berlin, Kriegsgefangenenlazarett Alexandrinenstr. 12/13.
3rd Army Corps—
Spandau (1 Arzt)
4th Army Corps—
Halberstadt.
Magdeburg.
Zerbst.
7th Army Corps—
Bielefeld.
Crefeld.
Dortmund.
Duisburg.
Düsseldorf.
Elberfeld.
Hagen i.W.
Minden i.W.
Mülheim (Ruhr).
Münster i.W.
Oberhausen (Rheinl.).
Paderborn.
Recklinghausen.
Remscheid.
Wesel.
Witten.
8th Army Corps—
Aachen.
Coblenz.
Cöln.
Deutz.
Trier IV.
Jülich.
9th Army Corps—
Hamburg III.
„ VII (Fuhlsbüttel).
Lübeck III.
Parchim.
10th Army Corps—
Celle I.
„ II.
Hameln, Kriegsgefangenen-Laz.
Hannover V.
Oldenburg.
Verden.
Bayern—
Kaiserslautern.
München B.
Neuburg a/Donau.
Nürnberg I.
Wurzburg (Schillerschule).

January 10, 1916.

No. 57.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received February 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 31st ultimo, transmitting copies of reports of visits made to the prisoners' camps at Wildemann, Clausthal, and Bischofswerda.

American Embassy, London.
February 7, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 57.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, January* 31, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits made by Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Dresel to the officers' camps at Clausthal and Wildemann, Harz, on the 25th January, and by Mr. Jackson to that at Bischofswerda, Saxony, on the 28th, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 57.

Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Dresel to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *January* 26, 1916.

WE have the honour to report that on Tuesday, the 25th January, we visited the officer prisoner of war camps at Clausthal and Wildemann, Harz.

Clausthal.—The camp buildings have been fully described in Dr. Ohnesorg's report

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of the 21st September, 1915.* It may be added that the situation of the camp is unusually attractive, being located among the Harz Mountains at an altitude of about 2,700 feet above sea level, surrounded by pine woods and very small ponds. There are nineteen British officers here interned, the same as mentioned in the previous report, with the exception of Captain Thomas Marshall, Welsh Regiment, and Lieutenant Gray H. G. Gillieland, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. These two officers have been transferred, at their own request, to their former camps—Captain Marshall to Gütersloh and Lieutenant Gillieland to Bischofswerda. Two enlisted men were found here, Privates Allan and Newman. Private Rowe, previously interned here, had been recently transferred to an officers' camp in the neighbouring village of Wildemann. All of the British interned were found in excellent condition. They had erected, largely at their own expense, a squash racquet court, which gives them sufficient opportunity for exercise. Weekly walks throughout the surrounding country are undertaken. The officers, in squads of twenty, are accompanied sometimes by the commandant himself, or one of his officers, who are unarmed. The officer prisoners give their parole while on these walks.

The commandant, Hauptmann Horn, a man of sixty years of age, is well liked by the interned, and spoke favourably of the relations existing between them. The only criticism we might make is that some of the smaller rooms were somewhat overcrowded.

They all complained of the length of time required for letters to reach their homes, in some cases five weeks elapsing before their arrival. We think the fault lies, not in the camp, but probably in the Censors' Department at Osnabrück.

General conditions in the camp are very good. At the time of our visit 175 officers and 25 orderlies were interned here, 48 being Russian, 36 French, 70 Belgian, and 19 British.

Wildemann.—A short visit was made to this camp, no British officer prisoners being found there, and but one enlisted man, Private Rowe, recently transferred from Clausthal on account of some alleged breaches of discipline which appeared to us trifling. We were also informed that he was disliked by the Belgian officers at Clausthal. The commandant told us that he had recently received notice that two British officers, Captain John Knight Bruce, from Torgau, and Lieutenant Price, from Halle, were shortly to be transferred to his camp. This officers' camp consists of two buildings, which in peace times forms one of the numerous sanitoria existing throughout the Harz Mountains. The buildings contain modern conveniences, including hot and cold baths, and the sleeping accommodations appear to be satisfactory. The rooms, in a number of which only two officers are quartered, are not overcrowded. The weekly walks mentioned in the report on Clausthal are also in force here, and the general conditions seem excellent. The camp is designed to accommodate 140 officer prisoners, and at present 119 Russians, French, and Belgians are interned here.

We have, &c.

KARL OHNESORG,
Surgeon, United States Navy.
ELLIS L. DRESEL.

Enclosure 3 in No. 57.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Bischofswerda.

THIS camp was visited by me on the 21st May, 1915, and by Mr. Osborne on the 18th October,† and its general aspect has not changed in the meantime. The new arrangement in regard to the mess has gone into effect, and it was told me by the officer prisoners that it was working satisfactorily, and that the food was good. Officers (British and French) were playing football when I visited the camp to-day and were wearing "shorts." Incoming mail from England arrives with promptness and regularity, but there was some comment on the time which elapses before mail sent to England reaches its destination. The new interpreter is considered an improvement as compared to his predecessor. Two Canadian orderlies have been brought to the camp, bringing the total number of British officers' servants up to seven—a fair proportion in view of the fact that there are only thirty-nine British (including Canadian) officer prisoners. There was still some dissatisfaction on the part of the officers as to the amount of the fatigue work which their servants are called upon to perform, but as ten

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 33.
† See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 40.

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more (non-British) orderlies had just come to the camp, the commandant thought that this would soon be rectified. The orderlies with whom I talked did not think that they were being overworked, and expressed themselves as satisfied with their present duty. These men were well clothed, and they said that their food was good. The quarters of the officers' servants remain as heretofore, and some dissatisfaction was expressed owing to the fact that their sleeping room was kept locked by day, and they were in consequence unable to change their clothing or to get at their belongings at liberty. When this matter was brought to the attention of the commandant he agreed to permit the key of this room to be left in charge of the senior British orderly (a sergeant). The senior British and Canadian officers (majors) share a good-sized room, and generally the British (and Canadian) officers room by themselves, with one or two officers of other nationalities, where there are accommodations for from ten to a dozen persons. The rooms are not more crowded than those in other officers' camps which I have visited. The number of wash-basins is limited, but the officers said to me that they had told the commandant that they did not care to have one apiece, owing to the amount of space which they would take up, in view of the fact that daily baths are permitted. Some confusion had been caused owing to the fact that the commandant was not certain as to who was the senior British officer, several officers having acted at different times as the spokesman for their comrades. This uncertainty was removed, and it is now understood that the actual senior is the only one who is to confer with the commandant in regard to the wishes of the British officers as a group, while any officer is of course at liberty to approach him with reference to individual questions. About a month ago, owing to an unsuccessful attempt to escape (concealed in a box which had been made by an officer prisoner), certain privileges—football, the daily bath, the use of wine and beer, and the unrestricted receipt of letters and parcels—had been suspended for a few days, but all have now been restored. A short time ago the practice was introduced of permitting the officer prisoners to take walks in the neighbouring country, in company of German officers, and on their parole for each occasion. Lieutenant Gillieland confirmed the story (see Dr. Ohnesorg's report of his visit to Clausthal, dated the 26th January) that he had been sent back to Bischofswerda at his own request, because he found that he had suffered from rheumatism in the other camp, and because he wished to be with his former comrades again. Lieutenant Button said that, although he had been sorry to leave Königstein (see my report of the 20th May, 1915),* he was satisfied with his present quarters.

January 23, 1916.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 15 (1915)," No. 3.

No. 58.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 31st ultimo† transmitting reports on prisoners of war camps at Güstrow, Döberitz, Blankenburg, Neisse, and Gnadenfrei, has the honour to state that he would be greatly obliged if Mr. Page would be good enough to convey to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, to Mr. Jackson, and Dr. Ohnesorg Sir E. Grey's thanks for the trouble they have respectively taken in connection with these reports.

Sir E. Grey understood from the report on Neisse camp, which accompanied Mr. Page's note of the 28th August last,‡ that this camp was to have been given up. He would be glad to learn whether this is the case, and, if it is not to be abolished at an early date, he ventures to hope that Mr. Gerard will endeavour to secure improvements in the latrine accommodation and extended facilities for the prisoners to take exercise.

With regard to the report on Gnadenfrei, Sir E. Grey would be grateful if Mr. Gerard would be good enough to make representations with a view to ending the evil of overcrowding which appears to exist at that camp. He would also be glad to learn whether the sanitary improvements, anticipated in the report on Gnadenfrei camp, which also accompanied Mr. Page's note of the 28th August last, have been carried out.

Foreign Office, February 12, 1916.

† See No. 55.

‡ See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 25.

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No. 59.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 4th instant,* enclosing a list of camps in Germany where British prisoners of war are interned.

Sir E. Grey notes with great satisfaction that the United States Embassy at Berlin have found it possible to visit all the camps with the exception of five, and many of them on several occasions.

Foreign Office, February 12, 1916.

* See No. 56.

No. 60.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 7th instant† transmitting reports by Messrs. Jackson and Dresel on the German detention camps at Clausthal and Wildemann and by Mr. Jackson on Bischofswerda, has the honour to state that he would be greatly obliged if Mr. Page would be good enough to convey to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, as also to Mr. Jackson and Mr. Dresel, Sir E. Grey's thanks for the trouble they have respectively taken in connection with these reports.

Sir E. Grey notes with pleasure the satisfactory character of these reports, but would be glad if Mr. Gerard's attention could be drawn to the overcrowding which still appears to exist at Clausthal, notwithstanding the promise of the German authorities to remedy this condition, as mentioned in Dr. Ohnesorg's previous report on this camp, which accompanied Mr. Page's note of the 27th September last.‡

Foreign Office, February 12, 1916.

† See No. 57.
‡ See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 33.

No. 61.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received February 16.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 4th instant, transmitting copies of reports of visits made to the camps at Spandau, Hannover Münden, and Göttingen.

American Embassy, London,
February 14, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 61.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
February 4, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report of a visit made on the 2nd instant by Mr. Jackson to places in the city of Spandau where British prisoners of war are to be found, and of a report dated the 3rd February of visits paid by Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Dresel to the officers' camp at Hannover Münden, and the men's camp at Göttingen, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 61.

Report of Visit to Detention Camp at Spandau.

IN the reserve lazaret No. 2 there are a few prisoners of war, among whom the only Englishman is Captain J. H. C. Coulston, the King's Own Regiment, who was transferred from Blankenburg a few weeks ago. I sat alone with Captain Coulston in the good-sized, comfortably furnished room which he occupies by himself. He spoke in complimentary terms of his treatment by the German medical officers. Since he came to the hospital he has had a slight operation, which appears to have been successful, as his wound is gradually healing. Otherwise his health is good. He is permitted to smoke in his room and to exercise in the large barrack yard, of which latter privilege he avails himself rarely, owing to the interest caused by his appearance among the wounded Germans. The surgeon in charge told me, however, that special orders had been given to prevent his being molested in any way. Captain Coulston spoke of the food as not being to his taste (it is the same as is given to the German wounded), but said that he made out very well with the assistance of the parcels received from England and elsewhere (fruit from Switzerland). He said that the bread provided by the German authorities was particularly good. Recently he had a conversation with Her Royal Highness the Princess Friedrich Leopold of Prussia, who visited the lazaret, but ordinarily he had little opportunity to talk, as he speaks only a few words of German, French, or Russian. On my speaking of this, I was told that an effort would be made to have English-speaking German officers call on him from time to time.

About seventy-three British prisoners of war are employed in the chemical works of ———, living within the enclosure in which there are a few German guards. These men spoke of their work as "at a munitions factory," which is not correct. They are employed principally about the factory itself and in the preparation of rubber for insulating electric cables. They work in night and day shifts, having one Sunday free every two weeks. They are paid 90 pfennigs per day, with extra pay for overtime work and work on Sundays. They spoke of their food as not bad, but said that they counted on the receipt of parcels. They said that, although the work was not hard, they would all prefer to be sent back to the Doeberitz camp, as they had not volunteered for work at all. The men sent to this place at first (August 1915) belonged to the Royal Naval Brigade, but a number of soldiers had joined them later, discipline having become rather more difficult (so the Germans said) since that event. Two corporals who came with the soldiers had been sent back to Doeberitz, and there are now no non-commissioned officers in the works, and there are no prisoners of war of other nationalities employed there, although there are a number of civilian labourers, including Chinese. There is a doctor available, and the manager of the works said that the prisoners often apply to him with little occasion to do so. Prisoners are not paid when they are excused from work.

As usual in the "working camps" which I have visited, the sleeping quarters for the men are not so good and are not so clean as those in principal camps. At present the men sleep in a well-sized loft, in which, however, there is not space enough for each to have his own bed, and some of the night-workers sleep in the places of those who work by day. I was told, however, that each man has his own straw mattress. Under the loft are rooms in which the men eat and where those off duty pass the time. Card playing has been forbidden, as it was found necessary in order to prevent gambling. New and larger quarters are in preparation for the men, in a brick building, which are to be occupied in a few days. The present quarters were well heated and lighted by electricity which is turned off at 9 P.M.

Until a new building had been erected, the men had had more space for exercise in the open air after their work in the factory, but of late no ground has been available for the purpose. On speaking of this, I was promised by the manager of the works and the officer who accompanied me that an arrangement would be made to permit the men to exercise in a field touching on the factory. I talked freely with the men, who had no hesitation about making their wishes known, and as a general rule they were in good health and spirits.

Spandau, February 2, 1916.

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Enclosure 3 in No. 61.

Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *February* 3, 1916.

WE have the honour to report that on the 1st and 2nd February we visited the prisoners of war camps at Hannover Münden and Göttingen :—

Hannover Münden.—This is an officers' camp, an old factory building situated on the outskirts of the village being used for the purpose. There were a total of 560 officers and 157 enlisted men. Of these, six were British officers and sixteen of the enlisted personnel, who were detailed as orderlies. The buildings and grounds were clean and in good order. The six British officers were quartered together in one large room, and the orderlies also quartered together in a large, comfortable, and well-lighted room. The grounds have been extended in area, and afford a walk of 350 yards. A good tennis-court has been built, and another is shortly to be laid out. The messing and canteen arrangements are in charge of the officer prisoners. Committees representing the different nationalities oversee the ordering and preparation of food and the sales in the canteen. To the cost prices of articles sold in the canteen is added an amount averaging 10 per cent. to cover loss, breakage, &c., and a moderate profit. The proceeds from this profit are used for the welfare of the officer prisoners, such as construction of tennis-court, purchase of cinematograph, &c. Accounts are kept by the committees and approved by the commandant. Expenditure of moneys is arranged and controlled by agreement between the camp authorities and the committees. Walks throughout the surrounding country have been instituted here. At present a guard of three soldiers and an officer accompanies the party, but we were informed that shortly arrangements were to be made for a special parole to be given for purposes of these walks. This would dispense with the necessity of a guard.

The general conditions of this camp now appear to be very good, and no complaints were made by the officers, with all of whom we conversed in the absence of the camp authorities. The following officers are interned here :—

Major Ritson, 8th Durban.
Lieutenant E. O. Bath, 48th Highlanders (Canadian).
Lieutenant Dale, Essex Regiment.
Lieutenant Voelker, Somersetshire Light Infantry.
Lieutenant Breen, Intelligence Corps.
Flight Lieutenant D'Arcy Levy, R.N.

Göttingen.—The situation and conditions of this camp have been described in previous reports. At present about 7,000 enlisted men are quartered here, 500 of whom are British. Besides these, 300 British are detailed to outlying working camps. We inspected those of the British who were at the time in the camp, and found them sufficiently provided with clothing and shoes. The condition of the camp was very satisfactory. The men, to a number of whom we spoke alone, had no complaints to make as regards their treatment, and the relations between the authorities and the prisoners appeared to be excellent. A fortnightly paper is published by the British, and each nationality has its weekly theatrical performance. The building donated by the Y.M.C A. through Mr. Harte has proved of great benefit, and contains the theatre, rooms for study, and a library of 2,700 English volumes, as well as books in Russian, French, and Flemish.

The Russians are quartered by themselves, and a portion of the British occupy separate barracks. The commandant, on our representations that a complete division of nationalities would conduce to discipline and make internal arrangements easier, promised to have the French and British separated in all cases.

The physical condition of the British prisoners of war was excellent. There were some twenty in the camp hospital with trivial complaints. Lieutenant J. A. Brewster, of the Royal Fusiliers, the only British officer in the camp, was in the officers' ward. He has been an invalid for many months, owing to a gunshot wound of right thigh, involving the bone, and informed us that he was shortly to undergo a second operation. He expressed himself as satisfied with his professional and general treatment, and seemed to be in good spirits.

The commandant, Colonel Bogen, is well spoken of by the prisoners of war, and appears to be doing his best to make their lot easier. A great deal of credit is due to Professor Stange, of the University of Göttingen, for his interest in the prisoners. He

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has an office in the camp, at which he is present for two hours every day, during which time he can be consulted by any prisoner, and has formed classes of study, which are well attended.

We have, &c.
ELLIS L. DRESEL.
KARL OHNESORG, *Surgeon,*
U.S. Navy.

No. 62.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's note of the 14th instant,* enclosing reports on a visit to Captain Coulston, at Reserve Lazarett II, Spandau, to chemical works at Spandau, where British prisoners of war are employed, and to the camps at Hannover, Münden, and Göttingen.

Sir E. Grey has learned with satisfaction of the conditions obtaining at the camps at Hannover, Münden, and Göttingen.

He would be much obliged if a visit could be paid to the works at Spandau, in six weeks' time, to ascertain whether better accommodation has been provided for the prisoners of war.

Sir E. Grey would be glad if his thanks could be conveyed to Messrs. Jackson and Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg for their reports.

Foreign Office, February 21, 1916.

* See No. 61.

No. 63.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received February 23.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 12th instant, transmitting a copy of a report on the working camp at Tegel, near Berlin.

American Embassy, London,
February 22, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 63.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
February 12, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report of a visit made by Mr. Jackson on the 9th instant to a working camp at Tegel, near Berlin, and to be,

Yours, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 63.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Tegel.

AT Tegel, a suburb of Berlin, there is a working camp in which there are about 280 prisoners of war, including 76 British soldiers and sailors, but no British non-commissioned officers. These men are housed in a three-story brick building, the ground floor of which is used as a mess room, with benches and tables, and as a place where the men may pass their time when off duty. The British prisoners sleep together (there

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being a small number of Frenchmen in the same room) in the top floor of the building, in which there is no partition, and where—as there are windows on both sides—the ventilation is good. The iron bedsteads are in two tiers, and the room is not overcrowded. My visit had not been announced in advance, and I found the sleeping and other rooms particularly clean, and well heated by steam. The bath room (douches) is on the ground floor and next to it is a room for washing (about fifty taps, hot and cold water, with stationary tubs) and for drying clothing. These rooms are accessible at all times. The latrines are conveniently situated, and are clean and without odour. Besides the latrines on the ground floor there are closets on each of the upper floors—for use at night, or by men who are excused from work owing to sickness. Adjoining the building there is a court in which the men can get fresh air, but which is not large enough for games. The kitchen, near which is the canteen, is managed by Germans, and the food is said to be better than that which is provided in ordinary camps. I talked freely with a considerable number of the British prisoners, and while most of them live principally on what is sent from home, they said that a man could live on what was provided by the German authorities, although the food would not be to his taste. Some of the men said that clothing recently sent them from home had been withheld, and on enquiry I found that this had been done because the clothing, although of a uniform cut, had nothing on it to indicate its military character, and might easily be mistaken for civilian clothing. The prisoners and German civilians work together, the "camp" is several hundred yards from the machine shops in which the prisoners work, and the opportunities for escape would be greatly increased if the men were allowed to wear civilian clothing, and that which has been withheld from them is being kept for their use in the future. None of the British prisoners complained of having insufficient clothing to keep them warm, although some said that they would like to have the new clean suits to wear on Sundays.

They are paid from 50 pfennigs to 1·25 M. per day, according to the work which they perform, and as a rule are not employed on Sundays, when only a small detail is called upon to perform certain necessary work for which additional compensation is given in the form of food (double meat rations, &c.). The men generally seemed in good physical condition and in good spirits, and no complaint was made to me in regard to their treatment or to the accommodation provided for them, although those who had been in this "camp" for several months, said that they would like to go back to Döberitz for a change.

The machine shops in which the prisoners at Tegel work was not a munitions factory before the war, but now a large part of it is used for the manufacture of shells. The prisoners are not employed directly in the fabrication of these shells, but they do general work about the factory, and handle the materials from which the shells are made, as well as the manufactured shells themselves. Of this some of the men complained, and on bringing the matter to the attention of the Foreign Office on my return to Berlin, I was given to understand that changes would be introduced at once, as it is not the intention that the prisoners should, without their consent, be brought into direct physical contact with any finished material which might be used against their fellow-countrymen. Few of the British prisoners have a trade or any technical knowledge, and the result is that most of them are employed simply as labourers. They work together with Belgian, Russian, and French prisoners, as well as with German civilians, with whom their relations are so good that instances have occurred where men have been punished for getting drunk on liquor supplied to them by the civilians.

February 9, 1916.

No. 64.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received February 23.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 16th instant, transmitting copies of reports on the camps at Limburg, Giessen, Darmstadt, Mannheim, and Heidelberg.

American Embassy, London,
February 22, 1916.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 64.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
Sir, *February* 16, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of a letter, dated the 15th February, 1916, addressed to me by Surgeon Karl Ohnesorg, United States Navy, and Mr. Ellis L. Dresel, members of the Embassy staff, reporting on their inspections of the detention camps for British prisoners of war at Limburg, Giessen, Darmstadt, Mannheim, and Heidelberg.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 64.

Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *February* 15, 1916.

WE have the honour to report as follows concerning military camps visited by us on the 9th to the 11th February, inclusive, being Limburg and Giessen (9th February), Darmstadt (10th February), and Mannheim and Heidelberg (11th February).

Limburg.—The camp has been fully described in previous reports. At the time of the present visit it contained 9,500 prisoners, of whom 2,045 were Irish. Of these last, 864 were detailed to outside working camps ("Arbeitslager"), and 46 were in the camp hospital.

The clothing of the prisoners was satisfactory, and all were found to be supplied with overcoats. A few of the men lacked leather shoes, and had been provided with wooden clogs. When, however, prisoners are sent to working camps, boots of substantial quality are in all instances furnished to them.

Complaints were received concerning housing and other conditions under which some of the prisoners work in outside camps, both here and at Giessen, the camp next visited. These complaints were taken up not only with the commandants of the two camps, but fully discussed by us with Lieutenant-General Augustin, the head of the inspection department of the 18th Army Corps in Frankfort. This officer stated that, in both these cases, he had realised that conditions had previously been unsatisfactory to some extent, but that lately there had been a change for the better, and undertook to arrange that we should have every facility for a thorough investigation of the working camps in the future.

Credit is due to Father Crotty, an Irish priest, for the work he has been and is doing for the prisoners in the chief camp at Limburg, and, where he has been allowed to visit them, at the outlying camps. One of the barracks in the camps has been arranged for religious services, and an altar, &c., provided.

On the whole, in our opinion, the treatment and conditions at this camp are satisfactory, and, with the exception noted, no complaints were made.

Giessen.—The number of British prisoners attached to this camp has, since our last visit, been reduced from 1,976 to 914, of which last number 481 have been detailed to working camps. The reduction is principally accounted for by the transfer of a considerable number to Soltau. The general conditions in this camp appear to be still satisfactory. The lack of clothing, mentioned in a previous report, has been remedied, and each prisoner has been provided with a sufficient amount of overcoats, suits, and shoes. The British non-commissioned officers informed us that the last drafts which had been sent away for working purposes had been in every respect properly fitted out.

Representations were made to us by one of the sergeants, a former gymnastic instructor, to the effect that he had been refused permission to establish a small gymnasium in the camp, on the ground of possible injury to the prisoners. On reporting this to the commandant, he promised to investigate the matter further, with a view to meeting the wishes of those concerned.

The Young Men's Christian Association has recently sent to this camp, for the use of the British soldiers, musical instruments sufficient for nineteen performers. Under a competent leader, an excellent brass band has been formed, which plays with much

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spirit and precision, and is practising daily. At stated intervals, as at noon on Sunday, this band is allowed to parade and play outside.

A working room has also been arranged where various artistic pursuits are carried on, and a Canadian prisoner was busy on sketches in oil of considerable merit.

The British prisoners, fifteen in number, who were confined in the hospital were visited, and were found to be receiving satisfactory treatment, but a few of the rooms were somewhat overcrowded.

Professor Gmelin, of the local university, has taken a great interest in the prisoners and visits them regularly with a view to providing for their instruction. Sergeant Hardwick has been extremely energetic and successful in conducting religious services, at which from 300 to 400 British are often present.

Darmstadt.—Only eight British prisoners of war were found here, all being under treatment for wounds received in September and October last. The following are their names and regiments:—

Sergeant Ellis, 11th Essex; Privates John Charles Fisher, No. 7741, Royal Berkshire; George Priest, No. 9683, Royal Welsh Fusiliers; Barnes, 4th Leicestershire; Howard, 2nd Royal Berkshire; Gandy, Samuel Barnes, both 2nd Cheshires; and Chalmers, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The hospital arrangements here, which have been previously described, are admirable, and no complaints were made. We have no criticism to make concerning the treatment, both professional and otherwise.

Mannheim.—The city is a modern and uninteresting town of 220,000 inhabitants, situated near the confluence of the Neckar and the Rhine, deriving its importance from the river traffic, of which it is one of the chief centres. The surrounding country is flat, sparsely wooded, and without marked feature. The camp, which was established in October 1915, lies on sandy soil about 2 miles from the centre of the city, adjoining a large manœuvring field. The barracks, which are laid out for about 10,000 prisoners, consist of 90 wooden huts of modern and substantial construction, measuring approximately 100 by 33 feet, and 12 feet in height, built to contain 100 prisoners each, and of three larger barracks of older construction, about 168 by 33 feet and 12 feet in height, each built for 250 men. Owing to the absence of a large quota of the prisoners in working camps, there was ample room in all the barracks. Of the total of 60 English prisoners, 52 were found in the camp at the time of our visit, and eight were at work at the Benz Automobile Works at Tauber Bischofsheim. Some are also employed temporarily in the town at one time or another.

Each group of ten huts forms a unit or company with not exceeding 1,000 men in each, and is separated from the others by wire fencing. Every company has within its enclosure an exercising field of ample dimensions.

The British prisoners, of whom the majority have been recently transferred from Renberg, and with whom we talked out of hearing of the military authorities, expressed themselves as satisfied with their treatment and made no complaints. Their clothing was sufficient in quality and quantity. Thirty-eight were housed in one of the large barracks, where they slept in two tiers on straw mattresses in wooden frames, the lower tier being raised some six inches from the floor. Although the smaller huts, in which the prisoners sleep on the floor on straw bedding, which is taken up and aired during the daytime, appear preferable, the non-commissioned officers with whom we talked stated that the men liked the larger barracks better. Of the remaining fourteen, ten were quartered in one of the smaller huts, and four in another. At the request of the men we asked the commandant to arrange that all British should be quartered together, and he promised that this should be attended to.

The bathing accommodations at this camp are situated in one building at a considerable distance from some of the barracks. Baths are, according to the regulations, required to be taken only once a month, not as in most of the camps, once a week. Though no complaint was made by the men on this score, representations were made to the commandant of the inadequacy of the arrangement, with the result that he agreed to a change as far as the British prisoners are concerned.

The sanitary arrangements at this camp were found to be excellent. On account of the vicinity to the city and the sandy soil, the drainage problem is relatively easy, and there is an excellently constructed underground system. The latrines are modern in construction, of the flushing type, and sufficient in number.

In our opinion, this establishment is a good example of the specially and scientifically constructed camps, and general conditions are of the best.

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Heidelberg.—Conditions here have not materially changed since the last report. Of the 332 officers now stationed at this camp, 13 are English. There are also 58 foreign orderlies. The British officers are the same as at the time of the last report, with the exception of Dr. William King Brown, who has been repatriated, and Aretin Mohammed, who has been transferred to the men's camp at Zossen. There is now some overcrowding in the building, as is realised by the German authorities, and a new camp is being established at Fernbach in the Black Forest. At the request of the officers, their desire to remain together in case of a transfer was favourably noted by the commandant.

Sanitary and bathing arrangements continue satisfactory, and the general health of the officers is good. A possible criticism is that the space for exercise, outside of the two tennis courts, is too limited, though it could probably be extended without difficulty. Walks in the surrounding country have not yet been arranged at this camp.

We have, &c.
ELLIS L. DRESEL.
KARL OHNESORG,
Surgeon, United States Navy, Assistant Naval Attaché.

No. 65.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received February* 29.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 23rd instant, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Lithgow Osborne regarding a visit made to the detention camp at Güstrow on the 12th February, 1916.

American Embassy, London,
February 26, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 65.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, February* 23, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to enclose to you herewith copies of a letter addressed to me by Mr. Lithgow Osborne, a member of the Embassy staff, regarding a visit which he made to the detention camp at Güstrow on the 12th February, 1916, to investigate a British newspaper report to the effect that two soldiers had been bayonetted at the camp for smoking contrary to rules.

I have, &c.
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 65.

Mr. Osborne to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *February* 23, 1916.

IN accordance with your instructions and with reference to the article in the London "Times" of the 7th February, stating the report of an exchanged British prisoner of war that two British prisoners at the detention camp at Güstrow, in Mecklenburg, had been bayonetted for smoking in a forbidden vicinity and that one had died and the other was still in hospital, I have the honour to inform you that I visited the camp at Güstrow on the 12th February, 1916. I did not notify the camp authorities of my arrival. I was shown every courtesy and received every facility for speaking to the British prisoners out of earshot of the Germans. I talked with a large number of British non-commissioned officers and with some of the men, and all were unanimous on two points: first, that if such an occurrence as the one mentioned had taken place they would certainly have heard of it; and second, that they had heard of no such occurrence. I visited the lazaret, through which I was taken by a British

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n.c.o., who is an assistant in caring for the sick, and spoke to every British patient under treatment there, not one of whom could possibly have been suffering from a bayonet wound. It seems to me to be quite out of the question that the occurrence mentioned in the English newspaper accounts could have actually taken place at Güstrow.

In point of fact, instead of complaints at Güstrow I heard rather praise of the camp from the British interned there, and praise of the British prisoners from the camp authorities. The men were all well fitted out with clothes of all sorts and seemed particularly cheerful. The authorities stated that it had never been necessary, in recent times at least, to place a British prisoner under arrest. On the whole the camp struck me as being as nearly ideal as it is possible for a place of detention of this kind to be.

I have, &c.
LITHGOW OSBORNE.

No. 66.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 1.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 21st instant, transmitting copies of reports of visits paid to British prisoners of war in the lazarets at Aachen, Jülich, and Cologne.

American Embassy, London,
February 28, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 66.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, February* 21 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits paid by Mr. Jackson last week to British prisoners of war in the lazarets at Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle), Jülich (Juliers), and Cologne, and to be, &c.

(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 66.

Report on Visit to Lazarets at Aachen.

TO the lazarets in Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) are brought most of the severely wounded from the West front, both Germans and prisoners of war, the latter of whom are to be found in the Maria-Hilf and Luisen Hospitals, the Garnisons Lazaret, and the Reserve Lazaret II (Reif museum), and the Maria Hospital at Aachen-Burtscheid, all five of which places I visited to-day. All of these lazarets are in charge of prominent surgeons, and in all of them the treatment of Germans and prisoners is the same. The three hospitals mentioned are Roman Catholic institutions, where the nursing is done by Sisters, and where there is every modern improvement. The Garnisons Lazaret is also a permanent institution designed to accommodate soldiers, but is of a simpler character, with men attendants, while the Reserve Lazaret II is an improvised hospital in a large airy school building.

In the Maria-Hilf Hospital I found Lieutenant T. C. Shillington, 8th Royal Irish Rifles, who had been brought from St. Quentin on the 22nd January, after having been in the field lazarets at Miramont (20th to 24th November) and Bapaume (24th November to 21st January). Lieutenant Shillington said that his treatment had been excellent in every way. At first he had shared a room with two German officers, but he now has a private room, and is permitted to walk about and talk with the wounded British soldiers, of whom there are nine in the hospital. Several of these men had

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been brought from prisoner camps (as indicated below) with a view to their repatriation, but had been detained here (in accordance with what is understood to be the wish of the British Government) because their wounds had not entirely healed, or because it is thought that further treatment or operations might restore them to military fitness. They had naturally been disappointed at not being sent home as anticipated, but most of them were in good spirits at the prospect of getting off at an early date or of their recovery. The names of these men are as follows :—

Private R. Fellows, 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers (from Stendal);
Private J. Story, 4th Rifle Brigade (from Giessen);
Private J. Craig, Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders (from Parchim);
Private H. Barnes, East Surreys (from Cologne);
Private W. Dexter, 3rd Canadians (from Göttingen);
Private P. Slessor, 13th Canadians (from Hanover);
Private F. Breakspear, Royal West Kents (from Douai);
Private J. Simpson, Royal West Kents (from Douai); and
Private H. Baker, 3rd King's Own Yorkshire Regiment (from Cologne).

With one exception (a man who had been for three months in a hospital, and who thought that he had been neglected), all these men said that their treatment had been good. All said that the food is good, and those who had signed away their parcels prior to leaving their former places of detention said that they did not feel the lack of them. The men are in groups in two different wards. They are permitted to smoke.

Captain R. Scholefield, 3rd Royal Fusiliers, had been at Jülich for about ten weeks before being brought to the Luisen Hospital two months ago, where he now has a private room, and is entirely satisfied with his treatment. In this hospital there are also four British soldiers—

Lance-Corporal R. Arnold, 1st Queen's Royal West Surreys;
Private W. Calep, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders;
Private H. Bridges, 2nd Highland Light Infantry; and
Private J. Tully, King's Own Scottish Borderers;

all of whom had previously been in the lazaret at Jülich, and who found the change a great improvement. They occupy one room, together with other wounded men.

There are four more British soldiers—

Lance-Corporal W. S. Hoar, Bedfords;
Private T. Regan, 13th Royal Fusiliers;
Private P. Gallagher, 2nd Highland Light Infantry; and
Private C. Mears, 22nd London Regiment;

in the Garnisons Lazaret, who have been in Aachen (formerly in the Maria Hospital) since they were captured about four months ago.

In the Reserve Lazaret II there were also nineteen men, who had come from various camps or hospitals :—

Lance-Corporal W. Casey, King's Own (from Wittenberg);
Lance-Corporal D. T. Griffith, 8th Canadians (from Magdeburg);
Private R. C. Smith, 1st Highland Light Infantry (from Stendal);
Private L. Wheatley, 2nd Canadians (from Göttingen);
Private C. Norton, 5th Signal Company (from Döberitz);
Private T. Coxford, 8th Durhams (from Ohrdruf);
Private H. Sheard, 2nd Canadians (from Ohrdruf);
Private J. Thain, 3rd South Lancs. (from Stendal);
Private W. Melvin, Royal Scots (from Senne III);
Private F. Corbett, Worcestershire (from Merseburg);
Private J. Newman, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (from Merseburg);
Private G. Gregory, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (from Wittenberg);
Private W. Wain, 13th Kensingtons (from Cologne);
Private R. Holburn, 12th Highland Light Infantry (from Cologne);
Private W. Bowles, Queen's Regiment (from Göttingen);
Private W. Wadsworth, 1st King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (from Göttingen);
Private J. Scanlan, Leinsters (from Limburg);
Private J. S. Evans, 2nd Rifle Brigade (from Stendal); and
Private E. Ward, 5th Canadians (from Magdeburg).

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Except for their disappointment at not being sent home, these men had no complaints to make. They said that their food and treatment is good. They are in groups in rooms with other prisoners of war.

In the Maria Hospital at Burtscheid I found Lieutenant Jack Francis Cochram Raikes, 1st Monmouthshires (captured 11th October), Second Lieutenant Arthur W. Brown, R.F.C. (captured 18th November), and Lieutenant G. C. Formilli, R.F.C. (captured 15th January), who share a large private room, and who all expressed themselves as satisfied with their treatment. Lieutenant Raikes had been very severely wounded, and the surgeon in charge was quite proud at having saved his life.

My visit to these hospitals had not been announced in advance. I talked freely, out of hearing of the authorities, with every one of the officers and men mentioned above. With the officers I was left alone, and in the Maria-Hilf Hospital I was accompanied by Lieutenant Shillington when I went to the men's wards. As far as it is possible for me to judge there is no ground for complaint on account of either personal or surgical treatment. All were of the opinion that the conditions are as good as they had any right to expect. With the exception of a few, who had been captured recently, all the persons mentioned were in touch with friends at home, and all had been permitted to write letters.

February 16, 1916.

Enclosure 3 in No. 66.

Report on Visit to Lazaret at Jülich.

SOME time ago, when the hospitals at Aachen were full, a reserve lazaret was established in a large school-house in Jülich (Juliers), which I visited this afternoon. The building is clean and well kept, and, while general conditions are fairly simple, the surgical treatment is considered to be particularly good. Here, as in Aachen, I was told that anæsthetics are used in practically all operation cases. In this lazaret I found twenty-seven British soldiers, with each of whom I talked freely. One man said that he had begged the surgeon to amputate his arm, but that the surgeon had refused to do so, as he thought the arm could be saved—as proved to be the case, much to the man's ultimate satisfaction. The British prisoners are all in one large ward, in which there are a few Russians. They described the food as "decent." All were in touch with their friends at home.

The only British officer in this lazaret is Captain F. Binnie, R.F.C., who shares a large room, in which there are several empty beds, with three French officers. He said that his treatment was good, but commented on the manner in which the food was served. On speaking of this to the surgeon in charge, I was told that the changes suggested would be made at once. The surgeon said that his attention had not been called to the matter before. He explained that the fittings of the lazaret had been provided hurriedly, and agreed that there should be a difference made in the way food was served to officers and men.

My visit had been announced about two hours before my arrival.

February 16, 1916.

Enclosure 4 in No. 66.

Report on Visit to Lazarets at Cologne.

THE hospitals in Cologne were described by the late Consul Michelson in a report dated the 15th April, 1915.* My visit to-day to the two in which there are now British prisoners of war was not announced in advance. In the Festungs Lazaret I, I found twenty men in different wards, with all of whom I was permitted to talk freely. All of them were in touch with their friends, and none had any important complaint to make. Two men had been sent here from the Festungsgefängnis (Private Cole, with rheumatism, and Private Hayward, consumption). One man was not expected to live, and several will probably be sent home with the next transport of severely wounded. The diet of the men varies in accordance with their condition.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 11 (1915)," No. 5

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In Festungs Lazaret VI (Augusta Schule) there are about eighty British prisoners of war in different wards, with practically all of whom I spoke individually. (One or two were asleep at the time of my visit.) Many of these men were able to walk about, and some are convalescent, but are kept in the hospital to care for their comrades. Smoking is permitted in the corridors and courts, but not in the wards, and some of the men have been punished for smoking in bed. One man, Private J. Hackett, 9th Royal Irish Rifles, who had been captured in December, and who claims that he had not been permitted to write at once from St. Quentin, said that he had had no news from home as yet, and two others, Privates J. Ferguson, Royal Irish Rifles, and W. Hilton, Scottish Rifles, who were captured about a month ago, have also had no letters. All the other prisoners said that they are in touch with their friends. On a tablet over each man's bed is shown his special diet, and on enquiry I found that the men actually receive the food indicated (including meat, eggs, and/or milk). Several of these men will probably be sent home at an early date.

In the Augusta Schule there is also an officers' ward, in which there are seven British officers, together with French officers. Their names are as follows :—

Captain W. Birt, 9th East Surreys;
Captain Hutchinson, West Kents (from Mainz);
Captain Moodie, 4th Black Watch;
Lieutenant J. Reynolds, 8th Lincolnshires;
Lieutenant C. B. Wilson, 10th Hussars, R.F.C.;
Lieutenant K. W. Gray, Wilts, R.F.C.; and
Lieutenant G. S. M. Insall, V.C., R.F.C.;

several of whom (those able to go about) I first saw having their photographs taken in a group in the school yard. All were in good spirits, and spoke of conditions as being satisfactory. All but those who were captured recently were in touch with home. From members of the R.F.C., whom I met here as well as elsewhere, I understand that it is the practice of the German aviators to endeavour to give information (by dropping placards, &c.) of the fate of the occupants of any aeroplane which may come down within their lines. I understand that an attempt to do this was made in Lieutenant Insall's case.

February 17, 1916.

No. 67.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received February* 29.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 23rd instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 10th February, and enclosing a copy of Mr. Jackson's report concerning his visit to the British prisoners in the Festungsgefängnis at Cologne.

American Embassy, London,
February 28, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 67.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, February* 23, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Embassy's communication of the 11th instant, enclosing a copy of the British Foreign Office's note of the 10th, in regard to the employment of British prisoners of war in Germany, and to inform you that a copy of that note has been duly communicated to the Imperial Foreign Office. At the same time, I beg to state that before your communication had reached the Embassy Mr. Jackson had already left for Cologne in order to visit the British prisoners in the Festungsgefängnis at that place. A copy of Mr. Jackson's report in regard to that visit, which was made on the 18th instant, is enclosed herewith.

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After his return to Berlin Mr. Jackson's report was discussed informally at the Imperial Foreign Office and the Prussian Ministry of War, and the suggestion was made, among others, that the British prisoners might be permitted to receive the white bread which is sent to them from abroad in lieu of the black bread which is supplied to them by the German authorities. As under the general rule prisoners in Strafgefängnis are not allowed to receive food parcels, the bread which has continued to arrive for those at Cologne has been sent to the lazarets in that city for the use of the British prisoners of war who are being treated therein.

I have, &c.

JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 67.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Cologne.

THE prisoners of war in the military prison at Cologne are housed in barracks built in the prison yard, non-commissioned officers and men of different nationalities being in separate buildings, in which they sleep, eat, and work. They sleep on straw mattresses, which are piled up in one end of the building by day. At my suggestion the officer in charge said that he would arrange, if possible, to have the mattresses raised from the floor, as some of the men complained that when the floors were washed (on Saturday afternoons at 4 P.M.) and not properly dried the mattresses became damp. The prisoners receive the same food and the same general treatment as the German military prisoners, with whom they are permitted to talk. The general work is tailoring, for which they receive a small amount of pay. The work is not hard. One man complained, however, that, as it hurt his eyes, he had been told that glasses would be given to him. He said he did not wish to wear glasses, and on my bringing his case to the attention of the officer in charge, I was told that an effort would be made to find other work for him to do. The prisoners are not permitted to receive food from outside sources. Non-commissioned officers are permitted to receive or buy tobacco and to smoke, but privates may only buy tobacco with the money which they earn in the prison, and they are not permitted to obtain it in other ways. Generally speaking, the living conditions do not differ materially from those in an ordinary working camp, and the principal things which indicate that these men are undergoing punishment—apart from the place in which they are confined, which is not behind bars—are the regulation regarding the use of tobacco and the prohibition of the receipt of food parcels. Ten British corporals live together in one hut with French and Belgian non-commissioned officers, which is not overcrowded, while about forty British privates (and lance-corporals) are with other prisoners of war in another hut. In both cases there is difficulty about the ventilation at night, owing partially to the fact that windows are closed with wooden shutters, and that the French and Belgians object to having anything left open. The officers in charge said that the British prisoners are generally more amenable to discipline than those of other nationalities. The men generally seemed to be in good physical condition.

Of those mentioned in the list which was sent to London on the 31st January, Nos. 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 have served their time and have been sent back to their former camps. Private Hayward (No. 19 in the list) has been released from the Festungsgefängnis and sent to a lazaret in the city. On his recovery from an attack of rheumatism he will probably be sent back to Sennelager. He had been punished for refusing to work in a stone quarry, which he says is not his trade. Of the other men mentioned in the list referred to above, Corporal Bonnick (from Senne I) was found guilty of lack of respect to his British superior, Corporal Jennings (Senne III) was punished for striking the French non-commissioned officer in charge of his barrack, and Corporals Orton and Shelton (Döberitz) had trouble with the German Landsturmmann who was in charge of a working party at Nauen. Private Bramble (Döberitz) was sentenced for insubordination, as was also Private Cole (Quedlinburg) who is now in a hospital at Cologne, and who may soon be repatriated because of lung trouble. Private Carmichael (Göttingen) was punished for refusal to work, and he says that he will continue to refuse if he should be sent back to a camp, as do also Privates Hall (Sennelager) and Walker (Göttingen). Privates Dale, Farell, Goodmann, Todd, and Whitaker (Giessen) refused to work (loading shells on trucks), but say that they are willing to do other work. Private Sells, Royal Munster Fusiliers (Sennelager) refused to work in a mine, but is willing to

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do other work. Gunner Watts is willing to work upon his release from the Gefängnis.

Several more British prisoners of war have been sent to the Gefängnis since the list in question was made out. One group, consisting of Corporals G. Barker, South Staffords; and M. G. Ford, King's Own Royal Lancs; and Privates T. Woods, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; R. Terry and W. Ferns, South Staffords; J. Macdonald and J. Lord, Scots Guards; and G. Waite, C. Smart, and A. Porter, 2nd Wilts, from Göttingen, has been sentenced to from eight to eleven months' imprisonment for striking to work at roadmaking at Oberhone [?] b/Eschwege, where a Private Russ, Wilts, had been shot, and where they claim that they had been badly treated and threatened by their guards, that the food provided by their civilian employer was bad, that the sleeping accommodations were insufficient, so that two men were compelled to sleep in one bed, and that there was no opportunity for bathing or washing clothes except in the open road. Another group, consisting of Corporals D. O'Connell, Royal Irish; and C. H. Maughan, Royal Manchesters (14th Canadians); and Privates W. Harding and E. Walker, Rifle Brigade; U. Oliver and W. Banford, 3rd Canadians; and C. Bolton, Royal Fusiliers, from Giessen, has received a year's sentence for striking work at Langen-Halbach b/Haiger. These men were building a railway, and claim that, although they are willing to work, they struck because they were badly housed and badly treated by the civilian overseers. A second group from Giessen, consisting of Privates W. Hosker, P. Chatterton, J. Dobson, and W. Cavanagh, King's Own Royal Lancs; G. Edie, 3rd Canadians (who is now in a lazaret in Cologne); J. Campbell, 13th Canadians; and R. Davidson, Northumberland Fusiliers, which had been sent to take the place of the first, struck for the same reason and received the same sentence. Other British soldiers working at the same place did not join the strike in question. A third group from Giessen, consisting of Corporals J. Day, King's Own Royal Lancs; and H. Knox, Northumberland Fusiliers; and Privates F. Johnson, P. Garvey, M. Kelley, J. Murphy, and J. Proctor, King's Own Royal Lancs; J. Griffin, Northumberland Fusiliers; and W. Grist, 3rd Monmouth Territorials, was given a six months' sentence for refusing to work in a stone quarry at Fehlritzhausen, because, as they claim, the food was bad. These men say that they would be willing to work under other conditions. Two of these men, Garvey and Murphy, are in the local sick room ("Revier Stube") with trifling ailments. Lance-Corporal W. O'Connor, Royal Irish, from Sennelager, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment for refusing to work on a farm at Henglin [?] and for an attempt to assault a German soldier, and Private E. Richardson, 2nd East Kents (Buffs), from Cassel, has received a seven months' sentence for refusing to work in a quarry at Grossenried. Private W. Bates, South Wales Borderers, who has received a two years' sentence, has been told that he is to be sent back to Münster II to have a retrial.

With all of the men mentioned I talked freely, alone or in groups, out of sight and hearing of any German. My visit had been announced about twenty-four hours in advance. I saw the men's midday meal, consisting of a thick porridge which appeared to be nutritious. One man claimed that it was thicker to-day than usual, but several of his comrades contradicted this flatly. No complaints were made to me of any rough treatment in the Gefängnis.

February 18, 1916.

No. 68.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of 22nd February,* transmitting copies of reports by members of the United States Embassy at Berlin on the prisoners' camps at Limburg, Giessen, Darmstadt, Mannheim, and Heidelberg, has the honour to state that he has noted with much satisfaction the improvements reported in the conditions therein prevailing, and that he would be grateful if the best thanks of His Majesty's Government might be conveyed to Mr. Gerard and to the gentlemen of his staff to whom the reports are due.

Foreign Office, February 29, 1916.

* See No. 64.

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No. 69.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 28th ultimo,* enclosing reports of visits recently paid by Mr. Jackson to British prisoners of war in the Lazarets at Aachen, Jülich, and Cologne, has the honour to request that Mr. Page will be good enough to convey to the United States Ambassador at Berlin and to Mr. Jackson the expression of his cordial thanks for the information furnished to His Majesty's Government as to the welfare of the prisoners at those places.

Foreign Office, March 7, 1916.

* See No. 66.

No. 70.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 8.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 24th instant, transmitting a copy of a letter from the Venerable Archdeacon William E. Nies respecting his visits to British prisoners of war in Bavaria.

For the guidance of the Foreign Office Mr. Page ventures to add that Mr. Jackson's report on the camp at Ingolstadt to which reference is made was transmitted to Sir Edward Grey on the 24th November, 1915.†

American Embassy, London.
March 7, 1916.

† See No. 16.

Enclosure 1 in No. 70.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, February* 24, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for communication to the British authorities a copy of a letter dated the 14th instant which has been received at the Embassy from the Venerable Archdeacon Wm. E. Nies, who has been given permission to visit British prisoners of war in Bavaria and minister to their spiritual needs.

With reference to the case of the young Hebrew soldier at Ingolstadt, which is mentioned in Mr. Nies' first letter, I beg to call attention to Mr. Jackson's report of a visit to the prisoners at that place on the 13th November, 1915. At that time the man in question stated expressly that he wished to remain where he was.

While adding that Mr. Nies has placed his letter entirely at the disposal of the Embassy,

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 70.

Mr. Nies to Mr. Jackson.

Dear Mr. Jackson, *Munich, February* 14, 1916.

I AM returning, enclosed, the receipts for 232·40 M., reimbursement for expenses incurred in visiting the camps in Bavaria for British prisoners. Thank you for your prompt cheque.

I am going to Germersheim and Landau in the R. Pfalz Wednesday and Thursday. The men everywhere seem to be fairly contented, and those in the lazarets speak in a very appreciative way of the good surgical care they are getting. The officers are somewhat bored for lack of enough to do, but that is natural.

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I think it only fair to comment favourably upon the friendly way in which my mission to the men is received and furthered by the commanders without exception thus far.

At Ingolstadt, on my second visit, both at the camp and the lazaret, as well as at Fort IX., I was allowed to move about and talk without any attendance. At Neuberg on-Donau the chef Arzt gave the attendant instructions to remain by the door. In most cases the services of the attendant was only nominal. This makes a considerable difference in my helpfulness to the men, as I can get their confidence better.

I have had occasion several times to add to the well-being of some of the men by getting requests favourably before the authorities when they were proper. For example, at Ingolstadt one of the young English soldiers who attended my service of the camp told me he was a Hebrew, and was put with the Russian Jews, and desired very much to be with his own friends. The others echoed his wish. I mentioned the matter to the commandant, who told me that the Hebrews were put together because of the desire of the authorities to respect their religious ceremonial, kosher meat, &c. He said, that if the man (Parks) stated to him that he waived his Jewish privileges, he could stay down with his companions.

Another case of prompt and gratifying courtesy was in connection with the Bayerische Kriegsministerium. The two lieutenants in lazaret B, Munich, in anticipation of a transfer in the near future, expressed a strong wish to go to Kronach where there were other officers of their company and personal friends. I was a little afraid of interfering, but went to the Ministerium, stated the case, and told them to frankly tell me if the request was not a proper one to make. Their answer was that I could consider the request as granted, and they at once telephoned to the lazaret ordering the transfer to Kronach. The two officers, Vaughan and Whittaker, were much pleased.

With sincere regards, &c.
WM. E. NIES.

No. 71.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to request that his best thanks may be expressed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin and to Mr. Lithgow Osborne for the report on the detention camps at Güstrow, copy of which was enclosed in Mr. Page's note of the 26th February.*

Foreign Office, March 8, 1916.

* See No. 65.

No. 72.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 7th instant,† transmitting copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Jackson by the Venerable Archdeacon Nies regarding visits paid by him to British prisoners of war camps in Bavaria, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if Mr. Page will be good enough to convey to Mr. Gerard the expression of his cordial thanks for this interesting report, and of his appreciation of the kind interest taken by Archdeacon Nies in the welfare of the British prisoners.

Foreign Office, March 11, 1916.

† See No. 70.

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No. 73.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received March* 14.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 4th instant, transmitting copies of a report of visits made to military camps and hospitals where British prisoners are interned at Germersheim, Villingen, Stuttgart, and Munich.

American Embassy, London.
March 13, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 73.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, March* 4, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report, dated the 2nd instant, of visits made by Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg to military camps and hospitals where British prisoners of war are interned at Germersheim, Villingen, Stuttgart, and Munich.

I am, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 73.

Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg to Mr. Gerard.

Sir, *March* 2, 1916.

WE have the honour to make the following report in regard to military camps and hospitals visited by us on the 18th to 21st February inclusive, being Germersheim (18th February), Villingen (19th February), Stuttgart (20th February), and Munich (21st February). These places were all, with the exception of Villingen, visited by us without previous announcement Everywhere free opportunity was afforded us to talk with the prisoners out of hearing of the military authorities.

Germersheim.—In the military camp, situated about a mile from the town, only Russians were found. The hospitals, eleven in number, situated in the town, which is a small village of about 3,000 inhabitants on the left bank of the Rhine, contain 3,127 prisoners, mostly wounded, of whom 43 are British Thirty-two physicians are in attendance. Ten British who had been seriously wounded were together in a ward in a large brick three-story building, which is the military hospital proper, some thirty years or so old. The majority of these men, wounded in the arms or legs, were provided with elaborate mechanical apparatus for straightening and healing the injured limbs. The quarters were clean, sanitary, and not overcrowded. In one of the numerous smaller hospitals, two stories in height, which had been newly-built, but changed over from stock and tool store-houses, the remaining thirty-three, all lighter cases, were being treated. Here also the conditions were found to be good.

The food served in these hospitals is exceptionally satisfactory. Dr. Algeron, the chief surgeon in charge, a broad-minded man and indefatigable worker, attends personally to the catering. The bread and butter, which we tasted, was unusually good, and each patient was allowed $\frac{2}{10}$ths litre (about 1½ pint) of excellent beer daily. Under this régime there have been some noteworthy increases in weight, amounting in one case to 25 lbs. in about four months, so we were told. No complaints were made by the prisoners, with each of whom we talked, and Sergeant Train, of the 8th Buffs, the ranking non-commissioned officer, spoke appreciatively of the treatment, professional and otherwise,

These men, when released from these hospitals, will all be transferred to Hammelsburg, which has been selected by the Bavarian Government as one of the British assembling camps,

Villingen.—This camp, situated in the Black Forest at an elevation of about 2,500 feet above the sea, and described in a previous report of the 26th June, 1915,

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contains in all 359 officers, viz., Russians, French, and British. Besides the two officers, Captain FitzRoy, Scots Guards, and Lieutenant Greenslade, Gloucester Regiment, mentioned in the former report, Captain K. Cameron, Cameron Highlanders, Lieutenant H. C. Mitchell, King's Own Scottish Borderers, and Lieutenant J. J. Russell, Royal Sussex, were found here. Captain FitzRoy and Lieutenant Greenslade were alone in one small room, and the other three occupied an alcove in a larger room where a number of French officers were quartered. Some complaint was made as to the food, the chief reliance of the officers, as in most camps, being on supplies from England. The price (1·50 M. per day) paid for food appears to be inadequate to supply the proper quality and quantity. On representations being made to the commandant to this effect he acknowledged that an improvement was possible, and promised to arrange an increase to 1·70 M. or 2·00 M We pointed out, however, that it was always possible to purchase extra meat and other eatables through the canteen by ordering them a day or two beforehand. The showers (two in number) appear to be insufficient for the number of officers, but the commandant stated that the number would be shortly increased. The latrines were found to be fairly satisfactory; there is underground drainage, but no flushing, and it was said that they were cleaned three times a day.

Complaint also having been made to us as to arrangements at meals being marked by want of cleanliness and of proper table utensils, it was promised that the British should be seated separately in the dining-room reserved for the higher officers, where conditions are much better.

The limited opportunities for exercise which exist in this camp will be remedied by walks under special parole which are shortly to be instituted.

In our opinion, considered as an officers' camp, the establishment leaves at present room for decided improvement. The commandant excused the shortcomings largely on the ground of overcrowding, which would be removed by the approaching transfer of some 240 Russians to a newly-established camp.

Stuttgart.—A report on this camp was made on the 28th June, 1915, and since then there has been no material change. At the building where British were quartered 3,401 prisoners were on the rolls, including five British. Of this whole number, about 1,400 were absent in working camps, only one of these being British. The British are Sergeant Roxby, 20th Hussars; Lance-Corporal Ramsbottom, 20th Hussars, in a working camp at his own request. Privates Powell, 1st Northumberland Fusiliers, Huntingford, Queen's West Surreys, and Vickery, 12th Lancers. Conditions here were found to be distinctly good. The British were housed together in a large garret made to hold 64, but occupied only by 30. The only grounds for criticism would seem to be the limited opportunities for exercise, which are confined to the somewhat muddy courtyard. Daily gymnastic exercises are, however, compulsory. Features of this camp are a large semi-open brick building at one end of the yard, where cooking of private food supplies is freely allowed, and an orchestra and very amusing Punch and Judy show (Guignol) conducted by the French prisoners.

Munich.—At the lazaret (2), formerly a military academy, in the Marsplatz, were found two British officers, Lieutenants Vaughan, 8th Battalion Buffs, and Whittaker, 10th York and Lancaster, and eight British privates. The former were quartered in a good-sized, high-vaulted ward with about 54 others, officers as well as men, and the latter in a still larger room with some 37 others. The two officers had substantially recovered, and were expecting at any moment to be sent to Kronach, their transfer there having been already ordered. The mingling of officers and men in one room is unusual in German hospitals, and not in our opinion to be recommended, and representations to this effect were made to the surgeon-in-charge, who promised to endeavour to arrange screens if other British officers were sent there. Outside of the somewhat inadequate facilities for outdoor exercise no further criticism seems justifiable, and officers and men alike spoke of their treatment with appreciation.

We have, &c.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL,
KARL OHNESORG, *Surgeon, U.S. Navy.*

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No. 74.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received March* 15.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 1st instant, enclosing a copy of a report on the officer prisoners' camp at Weilburg a/d Lahn and the men's camp at Giessen.

American Embassy, London,
March 14, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 74.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
March 1, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits paid by Mr. Jackson to the officer prisoners' camp at Weilburg a/d Lahn and the men's camp at Giessen on the 29th ultimo, and to be, &c.

(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 74.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Weilburg a/d Lahn.

THE prisoner of war camp at Weilburg was opened in November 1915, but no English officers were brought to it until the first week in February. It is now filled to its capacity with about 260 officers of various nationalities, including a number of generals, sixteen British (whose names are appended hereto) and one Indian officer. The building occupied is a three-story school-house (see picture) in attractive surroundings, which will be even more attractive in the spring. There are relatively large exercise grounds as well as a gymnasium, and a plot of ground is soon to be turned over to the officers, in which they are to be permitted to arrange individual gardens. The officers have been told, however, that they are not to be allowed to retain the tools for digging in their possession, because of the probability that attempts to escape might be made by tunnelling. A lawn tennis court is to be arranged in the exercise grounds. The officers are permitted to take walks in the neighbouring country in company with German officers, but under guard, as, as yet, parole has not been required. Every officer is enabled to go on one of these walks about once a week.

The two senior officers share one room, twelve others share another, which is rather uncomfortably full, and the remaining two English officers are in a third room with five Belgians. The Indian officer, Subadar Bhag Singh, 56th Vaughan's Rifles (formerly at Mainz), who speaks no English, is able to make his wants known through Colonel Wallace, and will probably soon be transferred to the Indian camp at Wünsdorf (Zossen) in accordance with his expressed wish. In regard to two of the Englishmen who belong to the R.F.C., there seems to be some uncertainty as to their right to be considered as officers, and investigation as to their exact status is being made. There are two mess rooms, one of which is for senior officers, but Colonel Wallace, in accordance with his wish, messes with his English comrades. Officers pay 1·50 M. for their food, but a proposition that the English officers pay less in return for the midday meal only is under consideration. The kitchens, under German control, are available for private cooking in the afternoons, and the English officers usually use their own stores for the evening meal. There is a fairly well-stocked canteen, in which articles are sold at approximately the same prices for which they could be purchased in the town. The use of beer and red and white wines is permitted as usual. Besides the mess-rooms, there is a common reading-room. The baths (twenty douches and two stationary tubs) are available practically without restriction. There are latrines on every floor, and the system has been adopted of assigning the w.c.'s (which are kept under lock and key) to the separate rooms, so that each may be responsible for the

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cleanliness of its own. One room is kept for cases of slight illness, in which there were no English at the time of my visit to-day. The rooms are lighted by electricity and well heated.

Among the officers' servants are three British, belonging to the Norfolks, 3rd Canadians, and Royal Scots respectively, which is considered as the proper proportion. These men said that they are satisfied to remain where they are.

None of the officers or men had any important complaint to make, and, on making known to the commandant their wishes in regard to matters of minor importance, I was told that they would be given all possible consideration. My visit had not been announced in advance.

JOHN B. JACKSON.

February 29, 1916.

List.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Wallace, C.M.G., 1st Suffolk Regiment.
Major S. J. B. Barnardiston, D.S.O., 2nd Suffolk Regiment.
Captain W. M. Campbell, 2nd Suffolk Regiment.
Captain J. M. Rose Troup, West Surrey.
Captain W. G. R. Elliot, Cheshire.
Captain C. G. Graves, 2nd Royal Scots.
Captain A. D. L. Stuart (? Stewart), Gordon Highlanders.
Lieutenant T. F. Teeling, 2nd King's Own Scottish Borderers.
Lieutenant D. G. Milne, Rifle Brigade, Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant V. Grantham, Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant H. W. Medlicott, R.F.A., Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant H. T. Kemp, Cheshire Regiment, Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant L. J. Pearson, R.E., Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant E. Jones, Royal Flying Corps.
2nd Lieutenant H. Gamble, 5th S. Lancaster Regiment.
2nd Lieutenant J. Parish, 1st West Yorks.

Enclosure 3 in No. 74.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Giessen.

AS this camp has been visited several times by members of the Embassy, I made no detailed inspection of it to-day. As on his last visit, however, Dr. Ohnesorg had not had an opportunity to talk to the men freely, I spent four hours in the camp this afternoon in unrestricted intercourse with them. I went into every company block (Nos. 1, 6, 8, 9, and 10) in which British prisoners were to be found, accompanied (except in No. 1) by Sergeants Want (Cheshires) and Hardwick (Canadian) and Chief Petty Officer Bushell, of the "Maori," and talked freely with the senior non-commissioned officers and all of the men who wished to say anything to me, out of hearing (and generally out of sight) of any German. The men all said that the food was much better than it had been a few months ago, and none had any complaint to make of their treatment in the camp itself. Several spoke, however, of unsatisfactory conditions at different working camps, and on my giving the names of the camps in question to the adjutant subsequently he said that investigation would be made. Several men spoke of the work which they had been called on to perform as being "in connection with the operations of war," but on exact enquiry I could only ascertain one instance where the men had actually come in contact with anything which was obviously ammunition (cartridge cases). Many of the men spoke of their objection to do any work, on the grounds that it was "giving assistance to the enemy," and others said that they did not like to accept any pay for their work, fearing that their pay might be stopped in England in consequence. I explained to them that on principle they could be compelled to work, or must take the punishment for refusal to do so, but that, if they objected to any particular kind of work on conscientious grounds, they should make their objections known to the German officers. On speaking of this later to the adjutant, he said that orders would be sent to the German officers and non-commissioned officers in charge of working parties directing them to communicate such objections to the commandant at once. The adjutant said that the orders forbidding the use of

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force to compel men to work or harsh treatment would be reiterated to those in charge of working parties. The adjutant also said that measures would be taken to see that any man who was punished by restriction in his correspondence should be enabled to inform his friends at home of the fact. One Canadian Highlander was in the arrest barracks (together with other prisoners) because he had refused to wear the trousers furnished to him, the rule being that kilts should not be worn by men at working camps or when they are sent into Giessen on fatigue parties. One man was in the cells serving a fourteen-day sentence for an attempted escape, having been caught after a ten-day absence. I had been told that this man (named Collin Earle) had been put in a "sweat box" for refusing to work, but on enquiry I was told by the man himself that this had not been the case, and that the story was merely a case of "what might have been." One man (John Buttonshaw), who had come back from a working party, feared that he would not be treated in accordance with his rank as a chief petty officer of the "Maori," and his case was brought to the attention of the adjutant. Eight men of the (Carlisle) Borderers had been captured about two weeks ago. In company 6 there were a number of men, as well as a few in other compounds, who had lost one eye or who had been more or less severely wounded, and were apparently unfit for further military service, although, so far as I am able to judge, few of them are entitled to repatriation in accordance with the terms of the existing agreement. Attention was, however, called to their cases. Crutches and artificial eyes had been supplied to the men needing them.

In company No. 1 (temporary quarantine—pending disinfection) there were 127 British soldiers who had been captured at or near Ypres and St. Eloi about a fortnight ago, and had been brought to this camp within the last four days, after a stop at Darmstadt. These men included Sergeant Simpson and 25 others of the Sherwood Foresters, Sergeant Dedman and 27 others of the King's Royal Rifles, Sergeant Foulser and 31 others of the Rifle Brigade, Sergeant Bailey and 19 others of the Lancaster Fusiliers, 5 of the West Yorks, 6 of the East Yorks, 2 of the Yorks, 6 of the Royal Engineers, and 2 of the South Staffords. With these men had been captured 2nd Lieutenant Reid, of the 12th Rifle Brigade, whose name I mention because he has not been on our lists as yet, who was taken to Mainz. These men said that their papers, private photographs, &c., had been taken from them at the front, but I was told by the adjutant they would be returned eventually. They said that they had not been badly treated while *en route* to Darmstadt, except as regards a lack of food. Most of them said that they had had an opportunity to acquaint their friends of the fact of their capture, but could give no address at the time, and an arrangement was made so that each of them could now send off a postcard telling where he is. As they have, of course, received no packages from home, a Belgian non-commissioned officer in the compound had made a voluntary collection for them from the stores belonging to British soldiers in the other compounds. None of these men had had a change of underclothing since their capture a fortnight ago (one said that he had had no change for the previous four weeks while in the trenches), but all had had at least two opportunities to bathe since they became prisoners. Extra underclothing had already been supplied to the men (eight) who had been sent to other compounds, and I understood that it was to be supplied to all the others. None of the men who have been in the camp for any length of time complained of a lack of warm clothing. So far as was in my power, every British soldier in the camp was given an opportunity to talk to me, and if any failed to avail himself of it it was because he did not wish to. My visit had not been announced in advance.

In conversation with the commandant, after my visit to the camp, I was told that there was sometimes a difficulty about interpreters, that orders were not always understood or that wishes on the part of the men were not communicated to him intelligibly, but that everything possible was done to remedy this defect.

The British band was practising at the time of my visit to the camp. The question of the arrangement of a gymnasium has been taken up with the "Inspektion" at Frankfurt-am-Main, and it is probable that the desired permission will be granted.

JOHN B. JACKSON.

February 29, 1916.

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No. 75.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 15.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 7th instant, referring to Sir Edward Grey's note of the 26th January,* and enclosing a copy of a report of a visit to the camp at Stendal on the 2nd March, 1916, by Mr. Ellis Dresel and Mr. Lithgow Osborne.

American Embassy, London,
March 14, 1916.

* See No. 52

Enclosure 1 in No. 75.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, March* 7, 1916.

WITH reference to the communication from your Embassy of the 27th January, 1916, transmitting copies of a note from the British Foreign Office, dated the 26th January, 1916, relative to the camp for British prisoners of war at Stendal. I have the honour to enclose to you herewith copies of a report of a visit to the camp at Stendal on the 2nd March, 1916, by Mr. Ellis Dresel and Mr. Lithgow Osborne, members of the Embassy staff, written by the latter, who had previously visited Stendal on the 4th November, 1915. Copies of the report of Mr. Osborne's first inspection were enclosed with my letter of the 9th November, 1915.†

From the enclosed report it would appear that the improvements at Stendal, suggested in Mr. Osborne's earlier report and concerning which Sir Edward Grey enquired in his note of the 29th November, 1915, copies of which were enclosed with the communication from your Embassy of the following day, have been carried out, and also that the transmission of mail to and from Stendal, mentioned in Sir Edward Grey's note of the 26th January, 1916, referred to above, is now satisfactory.

I venture to add that copies of the enclosed report are also being transmitted to the Department of State at Washington.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador)
JOHN B. JACKSON.

† See No. 9.

Enclosure 2 in No. 75.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Stendal.

ON the 2nd March, 1916, I accompanied Mr. Dresel to the Detention Camp at Stendal. Our visit was not announced beforehand. We found in the camp 256 British non-commissioned officers and men; there are also 70 other British belonging to the camp, who are at work camps. Of those in the camp a very large percentage are non-commissioned officers, and a great many others are wounded men who have come from the lazarets in Cologne and Jülich, and who are not fit for work. These latter have separate quarters.

I noticed some improvements since my last visit on the 4th November, 1915. The British prisoners are now all confined in the same compound and occupy the greater part of two barracks, which they prefer greatly to the former arrangement of dividing them among all the eight companies. Furthermore, since my last visit a new English censor has come to the camp, and between him and the English the best possible relations appear to exist. The British with whom Mr. Dresel and I spoke all stated that the despatch and receipt of mail, and the receipt of packages, concerning which there had been formerly many complaints, had improved very

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markedly and were now entirely satisfactory. The general atmosphere of the camp also seemed to have improved, and the relation of the men to the authorities and *vice versâ* was excellent. The opinion as to the food among the British was similar to that held in most of the camps, but they stated that, as packages came through satisfactorily, they were getting on perfectly well. In one corner of the enclosure was a small cook-house where there is always a fire, and where hot water can be had for cooking or other purposes. The canteen was stocked with the usual store of articles, and the prices appeared reasonable. The latrine of the British company, at the far end of the enclosure, we found free from unpleasant odour and up to the proper standards in other respects. With the exception of a few recent arrivals the men all had overcoats and good shoes, and other proper clothing. An organisation exists among the men to assist those who do not receive packages and those who arrive from lazarets before their own packages begin to come. Each man had the requisite two blankets.

The British stated that they boxed a great deal, and that they also played football. Up to the present they have done this within the enclosure, but in a short time a special field at the end of the enclosure will be put at their disposal. The men also hold theatrical and musical entertainments occasionally, and religious services are held every Sunday. There is a reading-room and a small English library. We were told that a few more books would be welcome.

In one barrack there were 179 British. This was not overcrowded, but it is planned to build rows of double-decker bedsteads down the middle of the barrack, which will give even a greater amount of room for the tables and chairs. We saw one barrack in the Russian company where this arrangement had already been carried out; it is not unlike that at Dyrotz, except that in the latter camp the sleeping platforms are along the sides.

In another barrack were 77 British who had been discharged from hospital as cured, but had not quite recovered their full strength. This barrack was less full, and each man had a separate bedstead. There were no British in the camp lazaret at the time of our visit. In case of severe illnesses the patients are sent into the town to be treated at the hospitals there or to Madgeburg.

We were told by the men that they had one bath a week, and that it was often possible to obtain more, if they wished. The bathing establishment is arranged in the usual way with a number of shower-baths and steam apparatus for disinfecting clothes while the men are in the bath. A large swimming pool has recently been built at one end of the camp, which is not quite completed, but will be in time for the warm weather, and ought to prove a great source of pleasure to the prisoners. It is also intended to arrange a tennis court for the men on the new playing ground and the men's requests included tennis racquets and balls as well as footballs and boxing gloves. The commandant informed us that it was intended to set up two or three billiard tables for the use of the men.

LITHGOW OSBORNE.

Berlin, March 4, 1916.

No. 76.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's notes of the 14th instant,* transmitting copies of reports on visits paid by Mr. Jackson, and by Messrs. E. L. Dresel and Lithgow Osborne to the internment camps at Weilburg and Giessen, and that at Stendal, respectively, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if an expression of his cordial thanks can be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, and to Messrs. Jackson, Dresel, and Osborne, for the information thus furnished to His Majesty's Government.

In regard to the officer prisoners' camp at Weilburg, Sir E. Grey ventures to express the hope that Mr. Gerard will be good enough to take such steps as may be in his Excellency's power to relieve the present overcrowding to which Mr. Jackson refers, and which forms an exception to the otherwise satisfactory

* See Nos. 74 and 75.

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impression made by this report, and he would add that the attention of His Majesty's Government had already been drawn to this defective feature in the arrangements of the camp.

Foreign Office, March 18, 1916.

No. 77.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 13th instant,* transmitting copies of a report on visits paid by Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg to camps and hospitals where British prisoners of war are interned at Germersheim, Villingen, Stuttgart, and Munich, has the honour to state that he will be greatly obliged if an expression of his cordial thanks can be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, and to Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg for the information thus furnished to His Majesty's Government.

In regard to the conditions found to obtain in the officers' internment camps at Villingen, and in the lazaret at Munich, Sir E. Grey ventures to hope that Mr. Gerard will be good enough to satisfy himself in due course that the recommendations made by Mr. Dresel and Dr. Ohnesorg, in regard to such matters as appeared to call for improvement, have received due attention from the camp authorities.

Foreign Office, March 20, 1916.

* See No. 73.

No. 78.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 22.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 13th instant, transmitting copies of reports of visits made to the officer prisoner of war camps at Halle a/d Saale and Burg b/Magdeburg.

American Embassy, London,
March 20, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 78.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
March 13, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of reports of visits made by Mr. Jackson on the 9th and 11th instant respectively to the officer prisoner of war camps at Halle a/d Saale and Burg b/Magdeburg, and to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
JAMES W. GERARD.

Enclosure 2 in No. 78.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Halle a/d Saale.

THE camp at Halle a/d Saale has already been described fully in previous reports. It was last visited by Mr. Russell and myself on the 28th October, 1915.† Owing to its situation and character it can never be made an entirely satisfactory camp, but on our visit to-day Mr. Russell and I found that there had been a marked

† See No. 3.

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improvement in its general "atmosphere." Friction between the prisoners and the camp authorities seems to have practically disappeared, and the authorities are obviously endeavouring to do all they can to make the place more comfortable. A number of the officer prisoners have already been sent to other camps, and it is the present intention to reduce the complement still further. There were in the camp to-day 468 officers, of whom 36 are British, all of whose names have already been reported. With the British officers Mr. Russell and I had tea, spending about three hours in unrestricted intercourse with them without German witnesses. Our visit had not been announced in advance, and the attention of the camp officials was taken up by the Swiss doctors who were examining French prisoners with a view to their being sent to Switzerland. None of the British officers had any material complaint to make, and we were able to speak with the commandant before leaving with regard to several of their minor wishes. The question of permitting walks in the neighbourhood is under consideration, although it is complicated by the fact that the camp is situated in the factory quarter of the city. A tennis court is to be arranged in the spring. Several small recreation and music rooms are in use, and various other improvements are in contemplation as soon as more space becomes available. Cinematograph performances are given weekly. Religious services are held by the British officers themselves every Sunday, and Chaplain Williams has visited the camp on several occasions.

The senior British officer is Major Eric Jackson, Cheshire Regiment, who was transferred from Cüstrin in November, and who shares a room with three staff officers of other nationalities. The remaining thirty-five British officers had been given an opportunity to room together, but had preferred to remain as they are in groups of three or more in rooms with other officer prisoners. One of the British officers is a member of the canteen committee. All mess by themselves, living to a great extent —as usual—on parcels sent them from home.

In the camp there are three British officers' servants, who are not overworked and who were playing football at the time of our visit. The number of orderlies of other nationalities brings the total of the servants up to the usual proportion.

JOHN B. JACKSON.

March 9, 1916.

Enclosure 3 in No. 78.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Burg b/Magdeburg.

THE camp at Burg was last visited by Mr. Russell and myself on the 18th November, 1915.* It is now being considerably enlarged, and when completed, probably in from six to eight weeks, it will accommodate at least 900 officer prisoners. A large number of wooden huts, similar to those previously described, are in course of construction at present, a second tennis court is planned, and the inclusion of more free space within the barbed-wire enclosure is contemplated. The kitchens, which are entirely under the control of the officer prisoners, are to be enlarged. Officers pay 1·50 M. for their meals. Flower beds have been laid out between the kitchens and the officers' quarters.

On the evening of the day of my last visit a certain number of officers made an attempt to escape, with resulting disciplinary measures, to which reference is made in the German Foreign Office's note of the 9th instant, of which a copy is being sent to England in the Embassy's communication of yesterday's date. Another attempt to escape, in which no British were involved, was made yesterday.

There were 472 officers in the camp at the time of my visit to-day, eight of whom are British. Captain George Elliott, Royal Irish Regiment, who was found not guilty of the charges which had been made against him, returned to the camp not long ago, and is now the ranking British officer. He shares a room with another British officer, and two more share a room in the same hut. The remaining four (lieutenants) share a room (intended for six) in the upper floor of one of the brick buildings. I talked with all of these eight officers, and none made any complaint in regard to their accommodation or treatment. Almost all of them said that they would prefer to remain where they are under existing conditions rather than to be transferred to any other camp. Only one said that he would like to be moved to a particular camp to

* See No. 19.

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which some of his friends had gone. When this wish was made known to the commandant, he said that it could probably not be met, as the camp in question is one to which only invalids are sent. My visit had not been announced, and I talked freely with the officers alone in their own rooms.

The four English soldiers on detail as officers' servants (out of a total number of ninety-six) are still in the camp. These men are housed in precisely the same way as the German guards, in rooms which are not overcrowded and in which comfortable iron beds are arranged in two tiers. With two of these men I talked (the others were at their work), and they repeated what they had told me on the occasion of my last visit—that they are well treated and subject to no bullying.

The practice of taking walks in the country has not yet been introduced, but the commandant said that he had been ordered to prepare for its introduction. When the new enclosure is completed there will be a stretch about 400 metres in length for walking within the camp itself.

JOHN B. JACKSON.

March 11, 1916.

No. 79.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 22.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 11th instant, enclosing copies of reports on the detention camps and lazarets at Ingolstadt, Bayreuth, Nürnberg, Kronach, Würzburg, Hammelburg, and Landau.

American Embassy, London,
March 21, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 79.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
March 11, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose to you herewith reports on the following detention camps and lazarets for British prisoners of war in Bavaria, made by Mr. Ellis Loring Dresel, a member of my staff: Ingolstadt, Bayreuth, Nürnberg, Kronach, Würzburg, Hammelburg, Landau.

At all these camps and lazarets except Würzburg (where, on account of limited time, it was not practicable) the visits were made entirely without previous announcement, and in each case ample opportunity was given to speak with the prisoners in private.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador)
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 79.

Report on Visit by Mr. Dresel to Detention Camps at Ingolstadt.

REPORTS on the officers' and men's camps, situated at Ingolstadt, were transmitted in June and November 1915 and January 1916.* The present visit was made on the 22nd February, 1916. At Fort No. 8, Squadron-Commander Briggs, R.N., and Lieutenant Crabbie, 1st Lowland Brigade, were found. The former could not be seen on account of an attack of influenza. The latter had no complaints to make and appeared in excellent health. Since the visit last summer, board partitions have been put up in the latrines, giving some privacy. Lieutenant Crabbie, who occupied an adequate room with five French officers, stated that neither he nor Commander Briggs wished to be removed unless on an assurance of materially better conditions. Their

* See No. 50.

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relations with the French officers were excellent and had resulted in mutual advantage in regard to acquisition of languages.

In Fort No. 9 the following officers were detained: Captain Allsopp, 1st London Scottish, Captain Wilson, and Lieutenant Scholefield, both aviation corps, and Lieutenant Kemble, Suffolk Regiment. The conditions at this fort do not appear to be as satisfactory as in No. 8. There is some evidence of dampness the walls of one of the rooms, where part of the officers live, showing occasional patches of moisture, and the sound of dripping water was in places audible. The vaulted halls, from which the rooms open, are dark and cold, and the whole atmosphere is somewhat depressing. The officers cook, eat, wash, and sleep in the same rooms. The latrines, though apparently sanitary, are primitive, and, though some effort has been made to obtain privacy, the result is still not very satisfactory.

At both these forts, it was stated that walks on parole would be started immediately, the inclement weather being responsible for a delay of some days. It is fair to state that general climatic conditions, and the old-fashioned construction of the forts, are responsible for most of the unfavourable features noticed. No complaints were made of unsatisfactory treatment by the commanding officers, who appear to be sincerely anxious to make such improvements as are possible. Following the visit to these forts, representations were made personally at Munich to the Bavarian War Ministry, with the result that it was promised to transfer two of the officers in No. 9 to Kronach immediately, and perhaps all of them ultimately. It was further stated that another fort, No. 10, was now being fitted up for the reception of officers, and that the improvements there over Nos. 8 and 9 would be material, including a "casino," &c. It may be added that the officers spoken with at the Ministry of War expressed themselves as entirely willing to meet any reasonable requests made by the American Embassy on the ground that information had been received of excellent treatment of prisoners in England.

At the men's camp, situated on the borders of the town of Ingolstadt, and described in previous reports, eighteen British soldiers were found. There is some overcrowding at this camp, and complaints of dampness were made which appeared justified, as drops of moisture were seen on the ceiling of the hut where the British were quartered. The men did not, however, appear to have suffered in health from the climatic conditions. The question of the transfer of these eighteen men to Nürnberg, or some camp where the climate is drier, was urged upon the Ministry of War at Munich, and a promise was received that this would be taken up at once, and, if possible, arranged.

At the lazaret in the city, Lieutenants Turner, Connaught Rangers, and Ratcliffe, West Yorkshire Regiment, were being treated, the former suffering from a fracture of the shoulder-joint and the latter convalescent. In a separate ward eighteen British soldiers were found. Here the quarters seemed somewhat crowded and the ventilation not very good. The general conditions were, however, not unsatisfactory, and there were no complaints as to the treatment.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

Enclosure 3 in No. 79.

Report on Visit by Mr. Dresel to Lazarets at Bayreuth.

THE camp at Bayreuth was described in a report of the 8th October, 1915,* the date of the present visit being the 23rd February, 1916. No British are now quartered at the camp itself, which now contains 1,368 prisoners, almost all French. At the camp lazaret, Private Watford, 9th East Surreys, mentioned in the former report, was found in a well-ventilated, spacious, and comfortable room, containing nine other prisoners, all French and French colonials. He had no complaints to make concerning his treatment. Private Green, 9th Battalion Black Watch, also previously mentioned, was found to have been removed—for the purpose of electrical treatment of his arm, by which it is hoped to avoid an operation—to the military lazaret in the city, which is an admirably equipped modern hospital. The advantages of such treatment, together with the excellence of the food and general conditions, seemed in this case to outweigh the temporary hardship of separation from other British.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 38.

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Enolosure 4 in No. 79.

Report on Visit by Mr. Dresel to Prisoners' Detention Camp at Nürnberg.

THIS camp was visited on the 23rd February, 1916, the previous report being dated the 28th June, 1915.* Of the 3,300 prisoners now detained here out of a total capacity of 4,000, 46 are British. The conditions were found to be still good, and the health of the prisoners excellent. Sergeant Tate, the ranking non-commissioned officer, who occupies a separate room with five senior French non-commissioned officers, and who, by his attitude and efforts for betterment, is setting a fine example to the men, reported the relations with the camp authorities as excellent, and the existence of only a few minor grounds of complaint. Together with some of the senior officers he is allowed to take walks under guard of one German non-commissioned officer. There is at this camp a French theatre, an orchestra, and a library. The barracks are new and well arranged. Religious services are conducted in a chapel by the British, and a translation of a German sermon is read each Sunday by Sergeant Tate. There is sufficient room for exercise, and the commandant promised that football, which had been stopped on account of some slight damage, should be allowed hereafter.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

* See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 7.

Enclosure 5 in No. 79.

Report on Visit by Mr. Dresel to Detention Camp at Kronach.

THIS officers' camp was visited on the 24th February, 1916. Since the date of the last report† (October 8, 1915) eight officers have been transferred here in addition to the three previously detained, the eight being Major C. R. Hall, Munster Fusiliers; Major Chillingworth, West Kent; Major Warden, East Kent (Buffs); Captain Lionel Davis, 8th Lincolnshire; Captain Wm. Johnson, East Kent (Buffs); Captain G. S. Rowley, Grenadier Guards; Lieutenant J. R. Whyte, North Staffordshire; and Lieutenant E. W. Pidduck, 2nd Welsh. The sleeping accommodations are sufficient, and in one or two cases exceptionally satisfactory, six officers being quartered in one good-sized room, Major Hall and one other in another, and the remaining three in separate rooms for three with French officers. Walks are shortly to be arranged under parole, which will supplement the somewhat limited opportunities for exercise. The only serious cause of complaint was of the failure to provide a competent dentist. The camp commandant, Captain von Petz, who appeared disposed to make all reasonable concessions, promised to take this and some minor matters up at once with a view to remedying them. This camp is considered by the military authorities as exceptionally suited for convalescents. The air is bracing, and the situation and general conditions favourable.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

† See "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)," No. 38.

Enclosure 6 in No. 79.

Report of Visit by Mr. Dresel to Lazaret at Würzburg.

NO British are now detained at the fortress in Würzburg, but a visit was paid to the "Schillerschule" Lazaret on the evening of the 25th February, 1916, where Captain Talbot, 11th Hussars, and two privates were found. This hospital, mentioned in previous reports, is excellently conducted. Captain Talbot, who, it is understood, has been proposed for exchange, and who occupies a large room with four Russian officers, stated that the treatment and food were good, and that he had no complaints. He has been allowed special privileges, such as the use of a gymnasium, at some distance from the hospital. Private Beare, 1st Lincolnshire, and one other British

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soldier also spoke appreciatively of the conditions. It was unfortunately impossible, on account of lack of time on this occasion, to see one private (Claffie) who was kept at the lazaret connected with the barracks.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

Enclosure 7 in No. 79.

Report on Visit by Mr. Dresel to Detention Camp at Hammelburg.

THIS camp was visited for the first time on the 26th February, 1916. It is situated some 2,500 feet above sea level, about 2 miles from the village of the same name, in the picturesque valley of the Saale, some 20 miles from Kissingen, with which, however, it is not connected by rail. The camp enclosure is situated on sloping ground at the northerly and highest extremity of a large military reservation extending several miles in both directions, and affords a wide and striking view of the surrounding country. The air is mountainous and bracing.

The camp buildings consist of the usual type of wooden huts, constructed since the war, each built to contain 300 men. At present under 2,000 are quartered there, with an average of 160 to each hut. The organisation is in seven companies, normally of 500 men each, but there are no fences or divisions, as in some camps, between the different companies. Of the huts or barracks, twelve in number, eight are arranged parallel and the remaining four at right-angles to and at the eastern extremity of the eight. There are three kitchens at intervals on the north side of the barracks and three latrines on the south.

The seventy-two British on the rolls of the camp, most of whom have only been detained there since last autumn, sleep altogether in one of the barracks. The ranking non-commissioned officer is Sergeant-Major Brian, Royal Berks. The beds, which the prisoners are allowed to build up from the floor, are arranged in two tiers. The mattresses are of straw and shavings, and each man had the regulation two blankets. The ventilation was good, and there was some complaint of cold at times, though there are stoves in each barrack. The commandant promised that attention would be given to this.

The privates are all ordered out to work at times, at present mostly on the roads, but none stay out over night. On the day of the visit sixteen were on road work and six on other light work about and just outside the camp. The workers leave at about 8 in the morning and return in the early afternoon. One man has been employed in blacksmith work and one in a mine. No complaints of importance were heard as regards conditions of work, and there was no friction with the authorities in this respect. Later in the spring the work will be mostly in the fields.

There were, as usual, some complaints as to the food, but it did not appear that either the quantity or quality was markedly deficient. Meat is served twice a week, and occasionally sausage in the evening. On the day the camp was visited coffee was served in the morning; at noon sago soup with vegetables, salt fish with onion sauce, turnips, and potatoes; and in the evening cocoa and a potato stew. The vegetable soup was tried and found very palatable. Every five prisoners get a round military loaf of bread of the usual size each day.

The bathing quarters are modern, clean, and well arranged, with twenty-five showers, a weekly bath being compulsory. The latrines are sufficient in number, but primitive and without water, and the odour was objectionable. They were said to be cleared out every two days and to be disinfected with lime, but this could not be verified. A small theatre, which had been blown down, was being rebuilt. The canteen, post-office, and package arrangements appeared satisfactory, but apparently the packages received, due probably to the recent date of the transfer of the greater part of the British there, were not so numerous as in most camps. For presumably the same reason the clothing and shoes of some of the prisoners were not entirely satisfactory. At the request of Sergeant-Major Brian a list, giving details as to the articles of clothing wanted, is being forwarded under separate cover.

The health of the men is satisfactory, only two being found in the camp lazaret, where they were receiving proper treatment.

The most serious defect at this camp appears to be the want of space for exercise. The camp limits are unnecessarily small, and even without them the muddy and sloping ground renders walking difficult, and there is no opportunity at all for football or other

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games. This ground for complaint was taken up with the commandant, as well as the condition of the latrines, and improvement was promised in these respects.

Arrangements have been made for religious services for British Protestants at this camp by Archdeacon Nies of Munich.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

Enclosure 8 in No. 79.

Report of Visit by Mr. Dresel to Detention Camp at Landau.

THIS camp was visited for the first time on the 27th February, 1916. Landau, a town of some 17,000 inhabitants in the Bavarian Palatinate, lies in a wine-growing and agricultural country, where some manufacturing is also carried on. The camp is situated on the outskirts of the town on rising ground, from whence a good view of the Hardt and Vosges Mountains is obtained. The camp contains twelve barracks of the usual wooden construction, about 200 ft. by 30 ft., arranged in parallel rows, and each built to contain 250 men. At present only 1,400 prisoners, divided into six companies, and including nine British non-commissioned officers and sixteen privates, are detained there. The ranking non-commissioned officer is Sergeant-Major Sopp, 8th Queens. The sleeping quarters are not overcrowded, and there is only one tier of beds. There was some complaint of the cold at times, alleged to be due to the insufficient supply of coke.

The latrines are three in number, of the usual earth type, and are cleaned every week. They appear to be sufficient and sanitary. The baths are satisfactory and obligatory once a week. At the request of some of the men it was arranged with the commandant that baths could be taken oftener if desired. The kitchens, three in number, are very clean, and the food is prepared exclusively by French cooks. The bill of fare for the day in question was coffee at breakfast, dinner of soup, meat, carrots, and potatoes, made into a stew ("goulasch"), and herrings and potatoes for supper. The food was tried and found palatable and well cooked. 300 grammes of bread (10½ oz.) is served to each man not at work, and to workers 500 grammes (17 oz.).

One hearth has been built where the prisoners can cook their own supplies, and five others are shortly to be erected. The canteen is rather unusually well stocked. There is the usual French theatre, and a small library, but English books are scarce.

Some shortage of clothes and shoes was noticed, probably due to the recent organisation of the camp as a detention place for British, and the packages, apparently for the same reason, were not so numerous as in many other camps. Religious services will, it is understood, shortly be arranged.

In the lazaret, which is excellently arranged and where the space is ample, were found three British soldiers, one of whom has been proposed for exchange. There were no complaints as to this.

As a whole, the camp made a very favourable impression, and the relations between the military authorities and prisoners are good. As at Hammelburg, which it resembles in many particulars, a difficulty is the need of a sufficient exercising ground. Urgent representations as to this lack were made to the commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Kräuter, who promised that attention would be given to the matter. Some other requests of a minor nature were at once granted by the commandant, who laid stress on the fact that every prisoner was allowed at all times to come to him personally with complaints, and who appears to show real interest in improving general conditions.

ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

March 9, 1916.

No. 80.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received March* 22.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy

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of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 13th instant, enclosing a copy of a report on the camp at Wittenberg where British prisoners of war are interned.

American Embassy, London,
March 21, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 80.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy, Berlin,
March 13, 1916.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a report, dated the 10th March, 1916, of a visit made by Dr. Karl Ohnesorg and Mr. Ellis Loring Dresel, members of my staff, to the camp at Wittenberg where British prisoners of war are interned.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador)
JOHN B. JACKSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 80.

Report on Visit by Dr. Ohnesorg and Mr. Dresel to Detention Camp at Wittenberg.

THIS camp was visited by us on the 10th March, 1916, and it is gratifying to note a decided improvement in conditions since the dates of the reports forwarded in November and January. A new Commandant, General von Studtwitz, who has been in charge for the last six weeks, is spoken of favourably by the prisoners and appears to have made a number of changes for the better. The clothing of the men is now entirely satisfactory, and each man has a good overcoat. The police dogs are not now a cause of complaint on the part of the prisoners. One or more British are employed in the distribution of parcels. The canteen arrangements seem to be sufficient, and an assortment of articles, including eatables, toilet necessaries, &c., at moderate prices was noticed there. The men in working camps are now being promptly paid. Several men have lately been recommended for exchange.

There are at the present time about 700 British attached to the camp, of whom 117 were found in one barrack, 108 in another, 53 in a third, and 29 in the lazaret. The remaining 400 or thereabouts were at work in various outlying camps, the radius of which extends to Silesia.

The third barrack mentioned contains men under discipline for various offences ("Strafkompagnie"). Of the 53 mentioned 30 had been working for some months past at an electrical-power plant, forming one of the working camps. A fortnight ago the 30 men quitted work in a body on the ground that they were obliged to labour on Sundays, which they alleged gave them little or no opportunity for rest or for washing their clothes. They were thereupon taken back to the main camp, but a definite decision in their case has not yet been reached. The Commandant, in discussing this subject with us, urged the necessity of keeping establishments of the kind mentioned running without intermission, and the difficulty of sending special shifts of men to a distance only for the Sundays. At our request he finally undertook to arrange that prisoners should not be obliged to work more that six weeks consecutively at the camp in question. No other complaints of importance were heard as to general conditions at these working camps.

The lazaret contains only men suffering from slight ailments or convalescents from old wounds, and consists of one large ward, clean and well ventilated. The men, from whom we heard no complaints, are under the immediate charge of a French medical officer.

This visit was made without any previous announcement, and opportunity was afforded to speak with the prisoners out of hearing of the camp authorities.

DR. KARL OHNESORG.
ELLIS LORING DRESEL.

Berlin, March 10, 1916.

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No. 81.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 25.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith enclosed a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 20th instant, referring to the reports transmitted to Sir Edward Grey on the 31st January,* respecting certain conditions obtaining at the officer prisoners of war camps at Gnadenfrei and Neisse.

American Embassy, London.
March 24, 1916.

* See No. 55.

Enclosure in No. 81.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

Sir, *American Embassy, Berlin, March* 20, 1916.

WITH reference to Dr. Ohnesorg's report of a visit made to the officer prisoners of war camps at Gnadenfrei and Neisse, of which a copy was sent to you on the 24th January, I have the honour to inform you, for communication to the British authorities, that the Embassy has now been advised by the Prussian Ministry of War that the use of English-French and English-Russian grammars and dictionaries had merely been prohibited temporarily for special reasons, and that the prohibition was removed before the end of January. The Ministry further states that the practice of taking walks in the country near these camps has also been introduced, for the present provisionally, however, pending the receipt of information regarding corresponding arrangements by the enemy Governments. The Ministry adds that the use of the gymnasium at Gnadenfrei cannot be permitted at present, because three attempts to escape have been made through it.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

No. 82.

Mr. Page to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received March 28.)

THE American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit, herewith enclosed, a copy of a letter he has received from the Embassy at Berlin, dated the 17th instant, enclosing a copy of a report of a visit made by Mr. Jackson to places in Magdeburg where British prisoners of war are interned.

American Embassy, London,
March 25, 1916.

Enclosure 1 in No. 82.

Mr. Gerard to Mr. Page.

American Embassy,
Sir, *Berlin, March* 17, 1916.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of a report of a visit made by Mr. Jackson on the 16th instant to places in Magdeburg where British prisoners of war are interned. Special mention is made in this report of Lieutenants Chichester Constable and Templer, and of Captain Allistone, as well as of the spotted fever epidemic at Wittenberg last year.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
JOHN B. JACKSON.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 82.

Report on Visit to Detention Camp at Magdeburg.

SINCE my last visit to the Magdeburg camp on the 3rd June, 1915,* a number of improvements have been made, and the general spirit is now much more satisfactory than it was last year. A large room has been opened as a library, music and general recreation room. Additional baths have been provided, so that the officers are enabled to take cold shower-baths both mornings and afternoons, and warm baths (douches or tubs) twice a week. More practical regulations have been put in force in regard to the use of the latrines at night. A second lawn-tennis court is being prepared. Hockey is being played. The officers still eat in their own common rooms, but this is in accordance with their wish, and a project to arrange a messroom was abandoned by general consent. The messing arrangements are now entirely in the hands of the officer prisoners, being administered by a committee in which each nationality (Belgian, British, French, and Russian) is represented equally. The officers pay 80 M. per day for their mid-day meal which consists of soup, meat five days a week, fish once and macaroni once, with potatoes and vegetables, and provide for their other meals independently (from the canteen or from parcels). This arrangement was made, I understand, after the pay of the Belgian, French, and Russian officers had been increased. It had been explained to the British officers why their pay had not been increased, and they expressed their satisfaction at the decision of the British Government.

All the British officers were moved some time ago to the "Wagenhaus" part of the camp. Colonels Stephenson and Neish are still the ranking British officers, and each of them shares a room with five or six officers of other nationalities. The remaining eighteen British officers sleep in groups of various numbers in rooms in which there are other officers, but they said that, although there were occasional disputes in regard to ventilation, they are contented to remain as they are, and do not wish to be put together in one room. I talked at length alone with Colonels Stephenson and Neish, and with most, if not all, of their juniors. My visit to the camp had not been announced in advance, and I was unaccompanied by any German officer while in it. Before leaving, however, I had a conversation with the officer in charge, and made known several wishes which had been communicated to me in regard to matters of minor importance. I talked with the commandant as well, before entering and after leaving the camp. The relations between the prisoners and the authorities appeared to be satisfactory. No complaints were brought to my attention.

Six British soldiers or non-commissioned-officers are on duty as officers' servants, and those with whom I talked expressed themselves as satisfied with the existing conditions.

At the Polizei-Präsidium ("Militärarrestanstalt") I found Lieutenants C. H. J. Chichester Constable and C. F. L. Templer, in regard to whose cases special reports have already been made. These officers occupy cells in which the "submarine reprisal" officers were confined last year. They are permitted to be together when taking exercise in the court, one hour each morning and one in the afternoon. They are allowed to bathe once a week. They said that the food was fairly good, and in any event they are permitted to receive their parcels and books from home. They are allowed to smoke, and the usual regulations in regard to correspondence are in force. Lieutenant Chichester Constable appeared to be in perfect health, but C. F. L. Templer spoke of feeling weak.

At the "Kriegs-Gericht" building, I found Captain W. Allistone in a cell which is ordinarily reserved for an officer awaiting trial by court-martial. In regard to his case, a special report has also been sent to London. He is also permitted to smoke, to receive parcels, and to correspond with his friends under the usual regulations. He has an opportunity to bathe twice a week, and recently he was taken to see a dentist. Captain W. Allistone's case presents some peculiar features. Not long ago, while taking exercise in company with a French officer, his knees seemed to collapse, and he fell to the ground. He remembers nothing of the incident himself, but since it happened his knees are weak and shaky, while causing him no pain, and he is not inclined to leave his cell or to take any exercise. He is permitted to use his bed by day, which is contrary

* See "Miscellaneous No. 15 (1915)," No. 9.

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to the general rule, and lies on it a good part of the time reading. He rose when I came to see him, but he seemed to balance himself with difficulty. I spent a quarter of an hour with him, during which our conversation was normal, although his memory seemed to fail him at times. He looked as if he were in perfect physical condition, clean shaven and with a good colour, but he showed a considerable amount of indifference as to the action which may be taken in his case. It is proposed to send him to a private "Nerven Klinik" at Halle, as soon as an appropriate room becomes vacant at that institution.

On calling at the Garnison Lazaret, I was told that the only prisoners of war in Lazarets in Magdeburg were in the Hofjäger and Hohenzollern Park gardens, and on visiting these, I found one British prisoner in each of them. These gardens are separated by a wall in which there is a door, and as both soldiers were able to walk they are allowed to be together most of the day. Both spoke well of their present treatment, and said that they had no complaint to make.

Private Herbert Ward, 7th Canadians, has been in the Hofjäger Lazaret for about ten months, having had wounds in his right hand and jaw. He is now in good physical condition, but permanently disabled, and has been told that he will be sent to Switzerland if an arrangement is made with the British Government. He is in correspondence with his friends, and receives letters and parcels regularly.

Private Edward Dougan (15854), 12th Royal Scots, has been a prisoner since last September. He had been treated for his wounds in the hospitals at Jülich and Cologne, and had been sent subsequently to the camp at Stendal. On his wound (right arm) opening again about two months ago he was transferred to the Hohenzollern Park Lazaret, where he says the treatment is good. Dougan says that he has no relatives with whom to correspond, and that he has received parcels only at rare intervals from his former (civilian) employer. His case had become known to the British officers in the "Wagenhaus," and they had been allowed to send him various articles and a small amount of money, but on finding that he was without money at present, I felt at liberty to deposit 20 M. to his credit from the British Military Fund.

While in Magdeburg I called on the Inspector General of the Prisoner of War Camps of the IVth Army Corps, who told me that the question of allowing the officer prisoners to take walks outside their camps was under consideration, and that the practice would probably soon be introduced.

The General spoke at length on the epidemic of spotted fever ("Fleck-Typhus") which had broken out in several of the soldier prisoner camps last year. He said that the disease had been practically unknown in Germany before its introduction by the Russian prisoners, that the symptoms were not recognised, and that the German doctors had not known at first how to treat the cases which appeared. He showed me a chart showing the course of the disease at Wittenberg, where it appeared on the 15th January, 1915, and was eradicated on the 23rd July. In all there had been 1,975 cases and 185 deaths. The mortality had been least among the Russians, and greatest among the Belgians and French proportionally. Among the German guards there had been 8 cases and 2 deaths, and among the British 125 cases and 39 deaths, while 79 Russians, 64 French, and 1 Belgian had also died. The General said that the isolation of the camp, and the order forbidding the German guards to enter it, had been absolutely necessary to prevent a spread of the disease to the city of Wittenberg, where most of the guards had their homes, and that, as a result of these precautions, there had not been a single case among the civilian population.

JOHN B. JACKSON.

March 16, 1916.

No. 83.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's

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note of the 20th instant enclosing reports by Mr. Jackson on the camps at Halle and Burg.*

Sir E. Grey will be much obliged if Mr. Page will request the United States Ambassador at Berlin to express his thanks to Mr. Jackson for his reports.

Foreign Office, March 27, 1916.

* See No. 78.

No. 84.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to his Excellency's note of the 24th instant† respecting the conditions in the officers' internment camps at Gnadenfrei and Neisse, has the honour to request that an expression of his thanks may be conveyed to the United States Ambassador at Berlin for the information furnished to His Majesty's Government in his Excellency's letter of the 20th instant, in regard to the facilities for exercise now afforded to the prisoners and the removal of the previous prohibition in respect of the possession of grammars and dictionaries.

Sir Edward Grey will be grateful if he can be informed in due course whether any improvement has taken place in the matter of the overcrowding and the defective latrine accommodation at those camps to which he ventured to invite attention in his note to Mr. Page under date of the 12th ultimo.

Foreign Office, March 29, 1916.

† See No. 81.

No. 85.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Page.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and has the honour to refer to his Excellency's note of the 25th March,‡ and to request that his cordial thanks may be conveyed to Mr. Jackson for his report on places of internment at Madgeburg.

Sir E. Grey fully approves Mr. Jackson's action in making a present of 20 M. to Private Dougan.

Foreign Office, April 6, 1916.

‡ See No. 82.

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MISCELLANEOUS. No. 16 (1916).

Further Correspondence with the United States Ambassador respecting the Treatment of British Prisoners of War and Interned Civilians in Germany.

[In continuation of "Miscellaneous, No. 19 (1915)": Cd. 8108.]

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty. May 1916.

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